

UFO

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CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

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ENTERPRISE, Manchester, KY - Aug. 7, 1986

Briefly

Oneidians still seeing UFO's

Residents in the Oneida area are still seeing what they term as 'unusual' spacecrafts as more sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFO) are being reported.

Even though flight specialists at the London Airport said the UFO's were indeed airplanes of unusually large sizes, area residents still refuse to believe them.

"This was no airplane I saw," said Roosevelt Spurlock, a forestry ranger with the Peabody Ranger Station.

Spurlock, who resides in Oneida was one of several Oneidians who reportedly seen the strange craft hovering over Oneida in July.

Flight officials said the plane was a CSA Galaxy, the world's largest airplane, but Spurlock and other Oneida resident refuse to believe what they seen was indeed a plane.

Since the initial sightings Oneida residents who reported they saw the unusual structure have taken a lot of joking, according to one resident who asked not to be identified.

But a Catlettsburg man says he knows what type of jokes can be made and what it is like to see a UFO and have nobody believe you.

In fact Bufford Ratliff wants to know more about UFO sightings.

Ratliff, a 50-year-old unemployed steelworker from Catlettsburg, said he knew of at least five sightings of unidentified flying objects in July, and that prompted him to write to the Ashland newspaper, appealing to the public for information about other sightings.

"I am interested in reports from 12985 and 1986" read Ratliff's letter, which was published Sunday in The Sunday Independent. Ratliff wants those who have made "one or more UFO sightings or have a newspaper clipping of UFO sightings" to send a copy of the clipping or written report to him.

"I think they should be studied, and what can be learned remains to be seen," said Ratliff, who has been studying UFOs for 19 years.

Ratliff, a lifelong Boyd County resident, said he saw his first flying saucer in the 1940s. Actually, there were two cigar-shaped

objects "dog-fighting" in the sky near the tiny community of Durbin, he said.

"I didn't know what to make of them," said Ratliff, who was about 10 years old at the time. "I just filed it in the back of my mind."

Ratliff said he later saw a UFO in the 1950s that "flew faster than any flying machine I'd ever seen in my life," and could make 90-degree turns without stopping.

But Ratliff said he didn't begin actively studying UFOs until 1968, when, he said, he saw two objects fly over the parking lot of Kentucky Electric Steel, where he worked for 18 years until the mill closed last year. Ratliff said heat from the objects burned him.

"I knew something should be done to let people know about them," he said.

So Ratliff formed a local group of UFO buffs. The group also attracted members from outside the region, and Ratliff named it the National UFO Research and Investigating Committee.

Through the group, Ratliff made contacts with others interested in UFOs. Today, Ratliff has two looseleaf notebooks filled with the sketches, notes and newspaper accounts of UFO sightings. He also has a shelf lined with paperback books about UFOs.

"I've had more books than that," he said, nodding toward the shelf. "I've had every book ever written about UFOs."

Ratliff said the five sightings that occurred in July were in Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Tennessee. He said more sightings usually occur during the summer because more people are outdoors at night then, gazing at the sky.

One of those sightings was reported by Ratliff on the night of July 24 in Western Boyd County. He said he had made about 50 sightings over the years.

As for those skeptical about flying saucers and extraterrestrials, Ratliff doesn't mind their snorts of disbelief. He said his friends and family had encouraged him to pursue his study of UFOs.

"They're fascinating because they're so unusual," he said. "But there's not enough work going on in the field to learn more about them."

Ratliff said the names of people providing accounts of UFO sightings would be kept confidential. His mailing address is 7930 Paddle Creek, Catlettsburg, Ky., 41129.

TIMES, Beverly, MA - Aug. 11, 1986 CR: B. Greenwood

Forum participants seek UFO explanation

By VIRGINIA LOWRY
Times staff

BEVERLY — In the past three years, more than 5,000 unidentified flying objects have been sighted in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut areas.

So far, the majority of those objects remain unidentified in what investigators term "The Hudson Valley UFO Mystery."

The Hudson Valley mystery involves the largest number of UFO reports in history, according to investigator Philip Imbrogno of Greenwich, Conn.

Imbrogno was one of about 100 participants in the third annual UFO Forum hosted by the Massachusetts affiliate of the Mutual UFO Network, Inc. (MUFON). The forum was held for the second year Saturday and Sunday at the Beverly Golf and Tennis Club.

Some participants in the forum, like Imbrogno, shared reports of sightings and other data collected since last year. Others had their own experiences to relate, while many just listened.

"We know that the FAA did an investigation in 1984, and they could find no cause for the sightings," Imbrogno said. Likewise, he

said, his team has been investigating the phenomena since 1983, "and we've compiled hundreds of cases" in which there is no known explanation for the UFOs.

In most cases, observers have reported an object about the size of a football field, mostly dark metallic and well, lit, said Imbrogno. "Sometimes, the lights seem to be boomerang-shaped," he added. According to one witness, Imbrogno said, "it looked like a city in the sky."

Larry Warren of Hartford, Conn., had his own personal experience to relate.

Warren was stationed as a security police officer with the U.S. Air Force near the Royal Air Force base at Woodbridge, England, in 1980, when he and other military personnel encountered "a triangular craft of some sort."

"What I saw was a gigantic ground fog," Warren recalled. "An object approached, with a small red light. It came down over this fog and exploded very silently."

"It was silver with a very bright red glow at the top and a very bright bank of blue lights at the bottom."

Warren said he observed the craft for about a half hour, then

saw "some sort of life form. Something moved away from it. There were three small beings. . . with dark, black eyes."

Warren said the "beings" were close to the base commander. "Then I was told to leave," he concluded.

Warren has told his story many times, including in interviews with military investigators. So far, he said, there has been no official confirmation that the craft or its occupants were, in fact, extraterrestrial.

Participants in the weekend forum came to Beverly from many parts of the United States, and as far away as South America.

Speakers included Alejandro Agostinelli, director of the Center for UFO Study and Commission for Ufological Investigations, based in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Jim Melesciue, Massachusetts MUFON state director; author David M. Jacobs; Richard Haines, a research scientist with the U.S. space station program; Budd Hopkins, author of "Missing Time;" Dan Wright, MUFON central states director, and physicist Bruce MacCabee.

GAZETTE TELEGRAPH, Colorado Springs, CO - Aug. 14, 1986 CR: L. Whitehurst

UFOs exist, speaker claims

UFOs are for real, and it is time the government stopped keeping its information about them secret, members of the International Flying Farmers were told Wednesday.

Unidentified Flying Objects are from elsewhere in this universe, have a power system far advanced of anything known on Earth and probably don't mean any harm, claimed Richard Sigismund, a social psychologist from Boulder and the owner of a soon-to-open gold mine in New Mexico.

But UFOs could create culture shock and panic, and for that reason the national government keeps a tight lid on the information it has collected and releases only that which it must under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the farmers were told.

About 800 people are at the Clarion Hotel attending the Flying Farmers annual convention, which opened Sunday and will wind up with a flyaway breakfast at the Colorado Springs Municipal Airport Friday morning. About 150 planes owned by the farmers are parked now at the airfield.

Although many people scoff at UFO stories, there is too much evidence to dismiss the reports as fiction, Sigismund argued.

The UFOs visiting this planet have a power source based on electromagnetic energy that negates gravity, a system far beyond the comprehension of earthlings, he claimed.

Wherever reports have been made about UFOs, a common report is when the craft sets down on the Earth's surface, all nearby gasoline engines fired by an electrical spark sputter and die, Sigismund said.

UFOs began arriving in the Earth's atmosphere in 1945, and the first act by the government was to impose a veil of silence about them because the military forces needed time to investigate the invasion of the nation's air space, he claimed.

And UFOs ought to be a matter of serious concern for the military. "If not, we had better revamp our military forces," he declared.

However, a "coverup" is no longer in the best interest of the country, he asserted.

The information now held secret should be released, because continuing government silence will "erode confidence in government" now that people know UFOs exist, he said.

However, he claimed UFOs will spark culture shock when contact is made between representatives of that far-advanced society and the people of Earth.

And because the least advanced culture is always more impacted by contact, he claimed, a visit by UFOs could prompt young people to look upon their society as second class and might decide it is not

worth efforts to continue it, Sigismund claimed.

Reliable reports of UFOs have come from all parts of the globe, he said, citing Iran, Kuwait, the Soviet Union, Cuba and, most recently, Brazil.

The Brazilian incident occurred earlier this year when a number of UFOs were sighted over Brasilia, but air defense planes were not swift enough to catch up with them, he claimed.

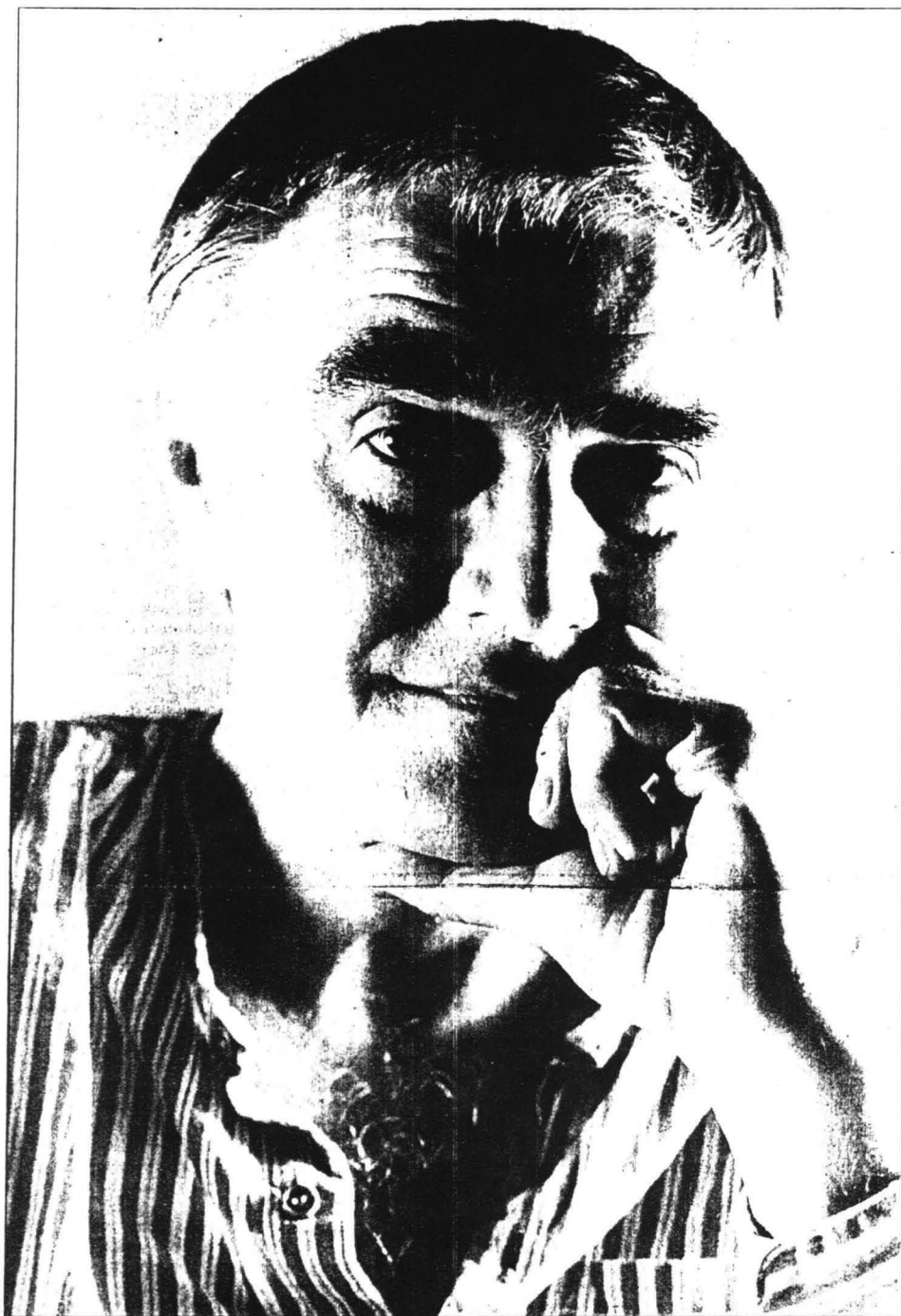
Sigismund said an early sighting of a UFO occurred on the Front Range, when a Longmont couple claimed in 1968 they saw a UFO craft and went aboard it at the invitation of the space travelers.

The couple told him they communicated with the beings by extra-sensory perception, Sigismund said.

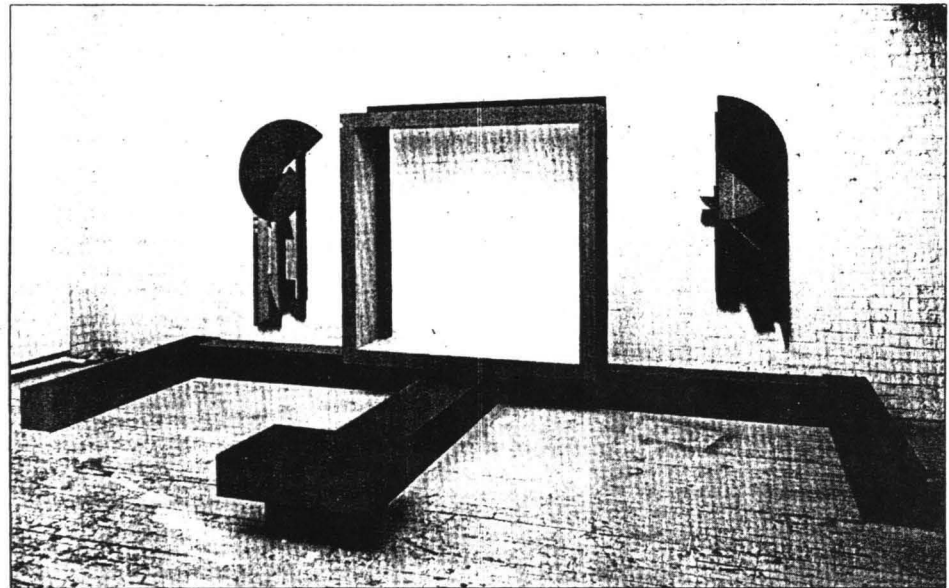
Under the effects of hypnosis, he claimed, the two both drew similar pictures of the craft, which looked like many illustrated spaceship concepts, and the husband sketched figures of crew members.

Among the features of the beings were bald heads with no eyebrows, no observable ears, and hands as long or longer than those on a chimpanzee or orangutan.

The Cosmic Connection



TCC PHOTO BY BEN BARNHART



"Black Temple With Guardians" (1984)

Alien visitors from Outer Space have been visiting earth for decades, at least.

Thousands of unsuspecting humans have been kidnapped at various intervals during their lives by these creatures, who whisk them away and perform experiments upon them, and then return them with no conscious memory of the strange experience.

This may sound like science fiction, but to Budd Hopkins it is fact. After more than a decade of intensive research, this Wellfleet summer resident—who is also a distinguished modern artist—has become convinced that UFOs have been an active presence on this planet for some time, and the only reason the general public hasn't accepted it yet is that it is too mind-boggling.

Okay, you say. The guy is a nut. He's gone 'round the bend. But you see, that's his point. No sooner is the subject raised than it's dismissed out of hand. What if he's right?

Through both his art and his fascination with UFOs, one thing is clear: Budd Hopkins loves a good mystery.

The beginning of the UFO mystery for him came on a summer afternoon in 1964 when he saw an inexplicable ellipse in the clouds while driving from Truro to Provincetown. That experience, and reading John Fuller's book, *The Interrupted Journey*—the story of a couple who claimed to have been abducted by a UFO—led to an exhaustive investigation of other cases which resulted in Mr Hopkins' 1981 book, *Missing Time—A Documented Study of UFO Abductions*.

He says that some people have accused those who believe in UFOs of being members of a "cult," which, he adds, couldn't be further from the truth.

"A cult is a situation of all beliefs and no miracles, and we've got just the opposite—we've got all miracles and no beliefs. We don't know *what* the hell it means.

"I live every day of my life as if none of this is true," he says. "I've gotten very involved with people to whom this has happened and tried to help them. That's been my focus, and that's taken me away from worrying about who it is up there that's doing this, and why, and all those questions, which we really don't have answers to."

Missing Time, he admits, is a distinctly non-scientific study which repeatedly reveals its author's enthusiasm about his subject matter. There is no denying that these strange tales are hard to explain.

Since the book was published, Budd Hopkins has been in touch with many more "abductees," and for the past year has been working on a new book which he hopes to have published in the spring. That will coincide with the publication of a first-hand account of a UFO encounter by novelist Whitley Strieber entitled *Communion*—a serious account which the publisher, Morrow, has paid a high price for and will promote heavily. When the two books come out, Mr Hopkins says, "The subject is going to be hot again, which is terrific."

Budd Hopkins was born 55 years ago in Wheeling, West Virginia.

He decided to become an artist while enrolled at Oberlin College, after hearing a talk by Robert Motherwell. After moving to New York, he spent time in the company of artists such as Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock and Franz Kline, and his work evolved from loosely abstract and chaotic paintings and collages in the '50s to geometric sculptures, paintings and constructions during the '70s and '80s.

His primary fascination in recent years has been with altars, temples and guardians, whose presence throughout human history, he says, transcends whatever culture or religion they represent. "The basic point of it is, through all of history, artists have made temples for whatever purposes," he says. "They have taken a space and magically charged it, so that the area that has been marked out has, through the artist's effort, been charged, and feels different than the space outside. Temples have been common to all of history."

This connection is outlined in a booklet, "Sacred Spaces," which Mr Hopkins published in 1983 with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts. It places his work next to photographs of the Parthenon, Stonehenge, and various Egyptian, Aztec and Iranian ruins. Nearby his creations and these ancient temples are "guardians," which he has fashioned as colorful abstract figures with curved tops which recall warriors' helmets. "There's always that kind of figure that guards the temple area," he explains. Then there are "altars" where ceremonies are conducted, which "Sacred Spaces" describes as "the most charged point within the temple."

Without explanation, the art of Budd Hopkins seems mysterious, but he wants it to fuel the observer's curiosity in the same way that ancient ruins do. "I want it to look like it had a function of some sort," he says.

"I always had the idea that from earliest cave times, there were two reasons for making art—one was to make the magic thing, the charged thing, the temple. You had the sense of the hierarchal weighted center. The other was to make decorative images.

"I want these," he says, pointing to one of his recently created "altars," "to have that dense, hierarchal sense."

Other than the fact the subject matter seems like something straight out of *Chariots Of The Gods*, there is no conscious connection between Mr Hopkins' artistic efforts and his research on UFOs. He will not argue that

(continued on page 3)

there may be an unconscious relationship between the two, although his interest in these images preceded his UFO work.

Rather than explain what the presence of UFOs on earth might mean, Mr Hopkins says that the goal of his research, ultimately, is to get more qualified people—psychologists and scientists—involved in a serious study of the phenomena. In addition to corroboration of sightings and examination of physical evidence, his method of research deals with individuals who have seen a UFO or some strange occurrence and then have "blanked out," finding themselves in a later time and, sometimes, a different place with no memory of the events in-between (hence the phrase, "missing time"). Under hypnosis (which was performed initially by psychologist Dr. Aphrodite Clamar, but which Mr Hopkins now performs himself), these people relate details of much more specific experiences—abductions at the hands of ghostly, unemotional creatures with large eyes and humanesque forms who move them to a pristine vehicle and perform various clinical procedures, from tissue-sampling to nerve stimulation. "Eighty per cent of every case, you've heard before," he says.

Are these all the same creatures from the same place? Are they related to humans in any way? Why have they abducted so many humans over the years?

"I have absolutely no answer to any of these big questions," Mr Hopkins says. "The only end you can pick it up by with any assurance is the human end. We do know about humans to a certain extent. The other end we don't know about.

"One point I'm making, and other people have made, is that one of two things at this point has to be true—either this stuff is more or less going on the way it's being remembered by so many people, or there is some new totally unknown psychological phenomenon which is so powerful and amazing that it should be fascinating by itself. Either way, there's no way you can lose. I don't care which hypothesis you accept. All I ask is that someone understand that there is a very strange, very hard-edged phenomenon that's out there that deserves attention."

There is no question, however, that Mr Hopkins sees it as highly unlikely that what he is researching is merely a psychological condition. "It's like the Holocaust," he says. "There are some subjects where the level of evidence required is extraordinary. How much evidence does it take to persuade you that something is true? It should get somebody's attention, but the mind puts it in some realm. Those books...the Von Daniken thing—about how the Egyptians were incompetent to build the pyramids, so aliens had to help—are based on denigrating man, as far as I'm concerned. Those books far outsell anything on UFOs, because in the public mind, somehow, there is a romance in the idea that in 2000 B.C. spaceships were flying around helping the Aztecs, or whatever. People accept that because it's romantic. But the idea that something might be going on now is still upsetting enough, despite the evidence, that it gets shut away."

As to whether these outer space visitors are benevolent or evil, superior or inferior, or from one end of the universe or the other, Mr Hopkins says, "I have no way of knowing. I have no theories about it. I try to avoid it—it doesn't help me." But through his encounters with people who, under hypnosis, seem to remember being in the presence of alien beings, he has drawn something of a personality profile of these shadowy visitors.

"One thing I've learned is that the minds of whatever one wants to call them out there—their minds seem much more uniform, one to another, than ours. Something comes through that they are rather baffled by the ragged craziness and diversity of the human mind and emotions, which they don't seem to understand."

HAMILTON KAHN



Budd Hopkins in his Wellfleet studio.

TCC/Barnhart

NEWS JOURNAL, Pensacola, FL - Aug. 7, 1986

UFO watcher seeks closer encounters of the 'weird' kind

By John Helton
News Journal

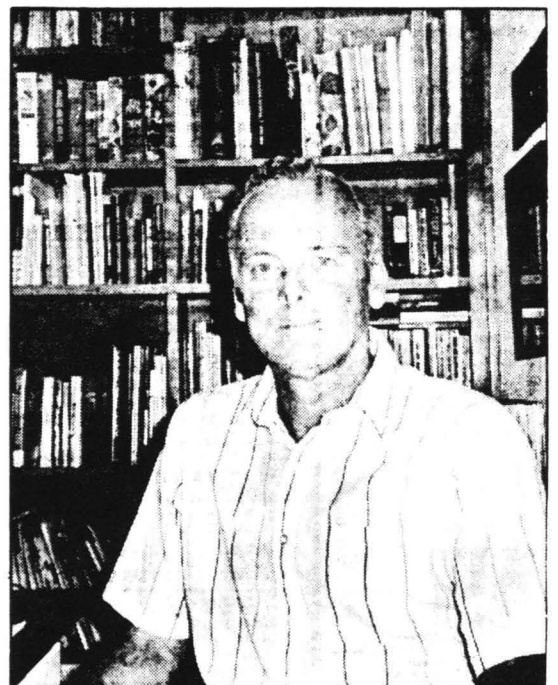
FORT WALTON BEACH — Donald Ware admits people might find him a little weird.

But those are normally closed-minded people who haven't given much thought to the possibility of life beyond our solar system, he said. Ware, 50, has been giving the subject a lot of thought since 1952; the more research he does, the more evidence he finds somebody is watching us, he said.

"I believe our planet is being watched right now and has been for thousands of years," he said.

Since retiring from the Air Force in 1983 at the rank of lieutenant colonel, Ware has devoted most of his time to the Mutual Unidentified Flying Object Network (MUFON), a 17-year-old organization that researches UFO sightings and encounters. He serves as the network's Florida state and section (the four westernmost counties) president and as a field investigator.

A native of Richmond, Va., Ware said hadn't given the subject much thought until he saw a UFO over Washington, D.C., when he was 17. Since then, Ware has earned a master's degree in nuclear engineering, has flown 100 combat missions over North Vietnam and has put thousands of hours into learning everything he could about extraterrestrial visitors.



John Helton/News Journal

Ware studies 'absolutely weird' UFO sightings.

Not to be confused with Donald E. Ware, an Okaloosa County Commission candidate, Donald M. Ware can rattle off case after case of sightings, abductions and visits, the product of those hours of research. And he has a compulsion to be precise, halting in the middle of a sentence to search a reference to make sure he's absolutely correct.

After ending a 26-year Air Force career, Ware said he wanted to spend his retirement doing what he wanted to do. Splitting time between six volunteer organizations doesn't leave time for much else.

He gives lectures, 14 last year, about UFOs to civic and community organizations, lectures he calls a broad view of the UFO phenomenon.

"Some of these things are absolutely weird, there's no explanation," he said, "and you can't hit somebody with too many thoughts. It involves too many thoughts that aren't generally accepted."

One of those talks and an article last year about his work brought forward people who had sighted UFOs but didn't know how to go about reporting them.

One was from a teacher, now in her 30s, who said she saw an egg-

shaped craft in Fort Walton Beach. Another came from a retired Navy man who said he watched a round object pass overhead as he mowed his lawn. Both sightings were documented on some of the 11 forms MUFON investigators fill out, recording everything from the weather to animal reactions to the witnesses' medical condition.

"MUFON looks at the phenomenon as a study of advanced science," Ware said, pointing out the organization's consultants, who have doctorates in 40 different fields.

Everyone has their own specialties, he added. Ware's is in the strange writings associated with UFOs. He is currently gathering as many samples as he can for analysis, which he said will be a 10-year project.

With only 54 MUFON members in Florida, many sightings go uninvestigated, Ware said. Part of his job as president is to recruit investigators and train them. For the \$25 yearly membership dues, anyone can join the organization to be trained as an investigator in Fort Walton Beach or just to help out where they can. Ware can be contacted at 862-6582.

WAYLAND/WESTON TOWN CRIER, Sudbury, MA

Aug. 14, 1986 CR: L. Whitehurst

UFOs around us?

By CHUCK CASTO

WAYLAND — Have you ever seen a spaceship? Well, Courtney Sullivan, 12, of 53 Old Sudbury rd. claims that she saw one last Sunday around 10:15 p.m.

As she was walking into her bedroom on the second floor, Sullivan said that she went to turn on a light near a window and saw the mysterious UFO.

She described it as a round vehicle that was narrower on the top than on the bottom with white lights around its edges.

Then she ran downstairs and told friends and family. After some 10 or 15 minutes, a search party of five people: Sullivan, her two brothers, Todd, 15, and another one, 14, who did not want to be identified; and two friends visiting from Mexico, Estefane de Jesus and Leopoldo Gonzales Espitea, ventured outside to investigate.

Over a hill?

But when they left the house, nothing could be seen, according to Sullivan, who speculated that the spaceship had gone over a hill.

When asked why it took so long to gather the search party, Sullivan said that she was afraid and "didn't know what to think."

She continued that she did not believe that the spaceship could have been anything else, such as a low-flying plane. Further, she said that she had no previous fascination with extraterrestrial phenomena.

Because no one else saw this UFO, did anyone believe her? Sullivan replied that her two friends from Mexico were "cracking up" and didn't think there was really a UFO out there, while her father and one brother indicated that there may, indeed, have been a spaceship.

The incident was reported to the police. Safety Officer George Norton said that there are not many UFO sightings in Wayland, explaining that the last one occurred some 10 years ago.

Sullivan will be entering seventh grade next year at Wayland Junior High School. Playing soccer is one of her favorite activities, she said.

Sept. 5, 1986 CR: S. Gordon

Witnesses Sought In UFO Incident

By LARRY KERR
Courier Staff Writer

Several Labor Day weekend travelers on Route 119 were startled to see an object they have not been able to explain.

Stan Gordon of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, Greensburg, told *The Courier* today the incident occurred Sunday evening, Aug. 31, about 9 p.m.

"People going up both lanes of the highway observed a large, low-flying object they thought was going in for a landing or was going to crash on Route 119," said Gordon.

The sighting took place just south of the Volkswagen plant.

near a hill between Old Route 119 and the present Route 119.

Apparently, the object disappeared behind a bend or a hill and when the people who had seen it came around the bend, they saw a fire on the hillside.

"People on both sides stopped their cars... thinking a plane had crashed."

Several people jumped from their cars and put out the fire, although a call was made to 911 that a plane had crashed, said Gordon.

What people saw was an elongated object, about the size of a Lear jet fuselage. At one point it came within 100 feet of the

ground. It had multiple rows of yellowish-green lights. Gordon said there are several factors that make this sighting interesting.

One is the fire, though he admitted one might have nothing to do with the other.

"Of course, we can't positively relate the fire to the object," he conceded.

The fire burned a circle about 9 feet in diameter and another spot near that. Those areas have been photographed and samples taken. No test results are available from the samples yet.

Another factor is that several different people on both sides of the road and on different roads saw the object. Also, hunker areas residents reported seeing it.

Among those who sighted it was a Federal Aviation Administration air traffic controller, passing through the area.

"He did not feel it was a normal aircraft," he said," claimed Gordon.

Gordon has gone public with the sighting now to try to convince any other witnesses to report what they saw.

He said since such objects are unexplained, all the group can do is try to learn what it can about them, and so the request for any additional information from other witnesses, witnesses who may be reluctant to come forward for one reason or another.

Gordon wanted to assure those persons they will be taken seriously.

"We take the report seriously. We're not going to ridicule them and we're not going to use their names."

This latest sighting is one of many that have occurred not only in recent weeks but throughout

this year, Gordon said he could not explain why there have been so many reports this year.

Another recent incident occurred on Aug. 12 when some Scottsdale residents and people from Monroeville saw another object. That sighting occurred in daylight hours.

"It's very rare to get daylight sightings," said Gordon, and on that day there were two.

Gordon said he's been involved in this activity for 21 years. The present group of volunteers was formed in 1961.

Anyone wishing to report Sunday's sighting or any other information may do so by calling 838-7768, 24 hours a day or by writing PASU, 6 Oak Hill Ave., Greensburg, Pa., 15601.

TRIBUNE-REVIEW, Greensburg, PA - Aug. 14, 1986 CR: S. Gordon



Film May Carry Secret Of 'Something Strange'

By SHARON SANTUS
Of The Tribune-Review

The scientific community remains baffled by a mysterious, burning light spotted in Westmoreland County and throughout the Eastern United States and Canada Tuesday night.

The answer may lie with photographs of the object taken by a 15-year-old amateur astronomer from Greensburg.

"We know what it wasn't," said Paul Oles, planetarium director at the Buhl Science Center in Pittsburgh. "But we have no idea what it was. Our most logical explanations have been totally ruled out. It now falls into the category of an unidentified sighting."

Oles said calls concerning the object, described as a brilliant white light surrounded by a cloud, began to flood the center shortly after 10 p.m. Tuesday and continued throughout the day Wednesday.

"Some have speculated that it was a rocket experiment that resulted in the release of a barium cloud," Oles said. "But we called NASA's nearest launch site in Wallups Island, Va., and were told that because of bad weather, there were no launches Tuesday night."

Dr. Lee Breakiron, assistant research professor with the University of Pittsburgh's Astronomy Department at the Allegheny Observatory, said he has received dozens of calls about the sighting.

"An educated guess is that it was a fireball or a bolide, part of a shooting meteor."

Oles does not support Breakiron's theory.

"Since the object was so broadly visible from Maine to Louisiana, it had to be several hundred miles high," Oles said. "That rules out meteors because they are only visible 60 to 80 miles up. With the meteor and experimental rocket explanations ruled out, I don't know what we're dealing with."

Fifteen-year-old Mark Griskey of 109 Cheshire Drive, Greensburg, is hopeful he has the mysterious object on film.

Griskey said he was talking with two friends in front of his house Tuesday at about 10 p.m. when he spotted the light.

"It was a bright white light, a little bigger than a full moon," Griskey said. "One of my friends said it was the moon, but the moon was off to the left. There was a cloud connected to the light, like a tail."

Griskey, who will be a sophomore at Greensburg Central Catholic High School in the fall, said the light was stationary for a few minutes and then began to move in a clockwise direction.

"The tail got longer as the light moved in a half circle," Griskey said. "When the light caught up to the end of the tail, the light faded out and all that was left was the cloud. And then it dissipated."

When he first spotted the object, Griskey said, he quickly brought out his 6-

inch-diameter reflecting telescope, but since the light and cloud were so large, he could not view the entire mass even at the lowest setting.

"I then ran for my camera, and I think I got some shots of it," Griskey said. His 35mm film shot with a 52mm lens requires a unique chemical processing that must be done in a photo lab in Seattle, Wash. The teen-ager is hopeful of having the color prints back in a few days.

"I don't know what it was," Griskey said. "It couldn't have been an airplane. It just floated. I never saw anything like it before."

Another of the hundreds of persons in the area who spotted the object was Dorothy Stoner of Unity Township.

She said she glanced outside, where her husband and sons were doing barn work, and spotted the light.

"It looked like an extra bright star, so I stepped outside to get a closer look," Stoner said. "There was a swirl of cloud that looked like it was illuminated by the light. But then it looked like the swirl was coming from the light. It looked like smoke. I almost expected it to explode."

Stan Gordon, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained in Greensburg, said he received dozens of calls beginning with Griskey's, shortly after 10 p.m. Tuesday.

"The majority of the calls I'm getting are from Cambria, Westmoreland, and Allegheny counties," said Gordon, whose association is a clearing house for UFO sightings throughout the state. "I just got a call from NASA in Wallups Island, Va., and they are just as perplexed as we are. They said the Davis-Dunlap Observatory in Toronto has had reports on the sightings from Lake Huron to East Halifax, Nova Scotia."

Gordon said callers told him the object was seen for up to 10 minutes in the southern portion of the sky above the planet Mars.

"They said it started out as a pinpoint of light that became brilliant white," Gordon said. "People said the whole thing began spinning and then it began to fade and disappear."

"I had a call from a member of the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) who said he was monitoring radio calls Tuesday night and heard several pilots reporting the object," Gordon said. "We contacted NORAD (North American Aero Space Defense command in Cheyenne Mountain, Colo.), and they said they had no information to account for the sighting."

Gordon said that typically unexplained sightings are quickly cleared up with scientific explanations.

"We're really scratching our heads over this one," Gordon said. "This is really developing into something strange."

Questions hover around UFO reports

By LORRAINE MULLICA
(First in a series of two)

Ed Mirabello is the sort of fellow who star-gazes while he walks his dog.

"I always look up," said the amateur astronomer from Rochelle Park. "Whenever I walk the dog, I look at the sky for five minutes."

It's no wonder then that he was witness to one of the eight major UFO (unidentified flying object) sightings in the Bergen County area since 1962.

Mirabello, who teaches fifth-grade students in North Bergen, said he and his wife, Glory, were riding down Route 80 in October 1975, headed toward the Unitarian Church in Wayne. "Glory was in the car with her father," explained Mirabello. "The three of us saw a light in the sky. It flashed yellow, red and blue colors all at once."

"When we got on Route 202, it was still there," he continued.

The Mirabellos said they saw the light right up until the time they entered the church parking lot.

"It was very dramatic," said Glory Mirabello. "I was a doubting Thomas at that time about these things, but this thing was hovering above us about 800 feet when we got out of the car. It was about two to three houses wide and two houses high. It was a square-shaped ship, not disc-shaped as most are reported to be. I could see the entire ship, almost see the metal itself."

The experience the Mirabellos had was far from unique. Hundreds of people across the state report such sightings every year, typically saying that the ships they see are either cigar- or disc-shaped.

UFO watchers have theorized that the cigar-shaped vehicles are "mother ships" from which the smaller disc-shaped ones emerge.

According to Robert Gribble of the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, Wash., New Jersey and California are by far the two states that report the highest number of UFO sightings.

"New Jersey and California



This photograph of a UFO flying over what is now Finch Park in Ramsey was taken in August 1957. (Photo courtesy of John Hay)

have always ranked number one as far as the number of reports that come in here," said Gribble.

When asked why, Gribble responded that some people believe the presence of the aerospace industry in California and the preponderance of electronic and high-tech corporations in New Jersey account for the large number of sightings. But Gribble added, "Who knows? There are holes in that argument."

Anyone who spots a UFO probably would do well to call the Seattle center, since local police departments and Air Force bases say they are no longer in the UFO-documenting business.

"UFOs are just not a police matter," said Police Chief Justin Georgetti of Washington Township, where several residents

of Hampshire Road, including one police officer, saw a UFO on Oct. 5, 1976. "If someone reports seeing something, we'll send an officer out just to see if there's anything harmful or detrimental."

"If it falls into the UFO classification," added the chief, "the only thing we do is call an 800 number at Northwestern University." That number is available only for police use.

Georgetti explained that, although police may keep records of such sightings if they want to, they are not mandated to do so.

The chief does not take the UFO issue lightly. "People who have seen them have a tendency to be very stable people," he said, "especially the commercial airline pilots."

It was a private pilot, Kenneth Arnold, a salesman from Idaho,

who first spotted a disc-shaped UFO in the sky near Mt. Rainier. According to a special 1967 edition of "Look" magazine on UFOs, it was Arnold who described the things as "flying saucers," coining the term for posterity.

Chief Georgetti counts himself among those who have seen UFOs. He recalled one night when he was standing on the Washington Avenue hill. "We definitely saw something," said the chief. "It was a ball of light on the horizon to the northwest of here. It would hang motionless, move on, stop again and then it just disappeared."

The chief said residents in Emerson reported seeing a similar sight that night in 1966.

Another of Bergen's major sightings took place in Hillsdale. The date: March 28, 1966. Sgt.

Frank Mikulski, who was on the police desk that night, recently pulled the file to refresh his memory.

He explained that there were a lot of sightings over Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan around that time. "Here they were sighted flying over Pascack Valley High School," he said. "So we figured the pilot must have gotten lost."

That night, a woman called headquarters at 7 p.m. to report lights over her Everdell Avenue house. She described them, according to the report, as "big bright lights, flying in an erratic manner. They flew out of sight very rapidly in the direction of New York City."

The next day a 14-year-old boy on Knickerbocker Avenue reported seeing the same sight.

29 years of UFO sightings in the Bergen area

The following UFO sightings were recorded in the Bergen County area, according to various newspaper accounts:

August 1957 — A 16-year-old boy spots and photographs a "saucer" in an open field near what is now Finch Park in Ramsey.

Sept. 15, 1962 — Eight 16-year-olds see a UFO land on the Oradell Reservoir.

Aug. 23, 1963 — Police switchboards light up as residents report a bright red object over Lodi and Hackensack.

January 1966 — Many people see a bright light in

the sky over the Wanaque Reservoir in Pompton Lakes 6:30 p.m.-4:00 a.m. The sighting prompts military personnel to come to the lake. When the vehicle many saw finally left the area, a warm spot was left on the ice where its light beam had struck.

March 28, 1966 — A Hillsdale woman sees two "saucers" fly over her house on Everdell Avenue and then over Pascack Valley High School. They fly out of sight toward New York City.

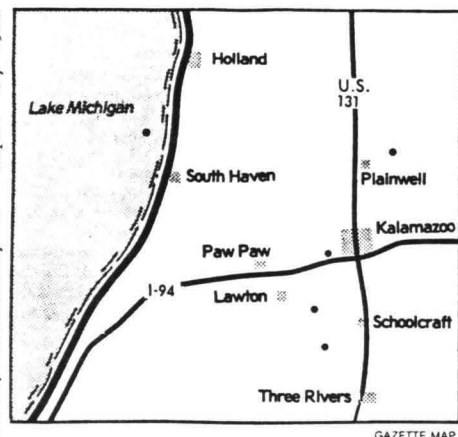
January 1975 — A 75-year-old North Bergen man reports seeing a spaceship land in North Hudson Park in North Bergen. He reports 10 or 12 small creatures in space suits climbed out of the ship, dug dirt, climbed

back in their ship and flew away.

July 4, 1975 — A young couple in a car report seeing a UFO pass over Route 46 near Parsippany. They say the object crossed them at approximately 75 feet in altitude, moving at about five miles per hour.

October 1975 — A Rochelle Park couple traveling on Route 80 west headed toward a lecture in Wayne report seeing an object above them. They describe it as a bright light flashing yellow, red and blue all at once.

Oct. 5, 1976 — Five residents on Hampshire Road in Washington Township watch as a saucer hovers suspended in the air over their street.



Close encounter appears to be sight for scores of eyes

MIKE MAGNER
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

A Portage man who recently reported seeing a gigantic unidentified flying object near Lawton on Aug. 1 apparently had plenty of company.

More than a dozen other residents of four area counties have reported seeing the same UFO that John Long described in a Kalamazoo Gazette story last Tuesday.

In the story, Long told how he and a friend, Richard Jandura, were fishing on Banksons Lake southeast of Lawton on Aug. 1 when a massive spacecraft flew slowly and silently overhead around 10:30 p.m.

The craft, described by Long and Jandura as being more than 200 yards long with a bright white light in front and three blinking red lights on each side, flew 200 to 300 feet over the lake in a northwesterly direction, but without making any sound, Long said.

Although the craft's front light flashed brilliantly and then went out as it traveled over Banksons Lake for about 15 minutes, apparently none of the other fishermen on the lake saw it, Long had said.

Now, however, it appears that at least three people on the Banksons Lake shoreline that night saw the same thing, while a number of others have called the Gazette to report similar UFO sightings both before and after Long's experience.

Michael Neumann of Marcellus, a student at Three Rivers High School, said he, his mother, his brother and two friends were fishing on Lewis Lake east of Marcellus on the same evening when they saw the same UFO shortly after 10 p.m.

"I saw out of the corner of my eye a huge triangular-shaped object," he said. "We all looked and could

(continued on page 6)

20 Years Later, Kecksburg 'Light' Little Clearer

UFO Info Week Begins

By The Tribune-Review

The second annual National UFO Information Week will be observed beginning today by the Mutual UFO Network of Seguin, Texas.

MUFON is the largest international UFO research organization conducting serious study of UFO phenomena.

The Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, a statewide clearinghouse for UFO reports, will have an exhibit of UFO-related material Saturday at Westmoreland Mall near Greensburg.

The exhibit will feature slides and photos of UFOs, a display of books and government documents and various physical evidence obtained by PASU during investigations.

People who have had past or recent UFO sightings or other strange experiences are asked to write to PASU at 6 Oakhill Ave., Greensburg, Pa., 15601. The 24-hour Pennsylvania UFO hotline is 412-838-7768.

Observers may report experiences without fear of ridicule or publicity.

Among the military personnel involved in this, what the object was or what was done with it?

Through requests for declassified documents under the Freedom of Information Act, Gordon discovered an Air Force memo that mentioned that a three-man team was dispatched to Acme to investigate and pick up an object that started a fire. When investigators first requested records of the unit in the hope that documents might shed light on the incident they were told that they

Says Gordon: "Why after more than 20 years is the government continuing to keep this quiet? Why aren't there any records anywhere to show the unit was in-

volved in this, what the object was or what was done with it?"

Through requests for declassified documents under the Freedom of Information Act, Gordon discovered an Air Force memo that mentioned that a three-man team was dispatched to Acme to investigate and pick up an object that started a fire. When investigators first requested records of the unit in the hope that documents might shed light on the incident they were told that they

could not be located.

In recent months, some records have surfaced, but Gordon says he is disappointed that they make no mention of the unit's involvement in the Kecksburg search detail.

Although the records contain information and operations for the month, including code names of different exercises — Desk Top 7, Cree Arrow 1 — no mention is made in the operations manual of the unit's assignment at Kecksburg.

"There is no mention at all for anything Dec. 9," says Gordon. Now everybody we talked to in the military said they can't possibly understand how in peacetime or wartime you could move personnel and military equipment without there being a report on it.

"Why isn't there even an operations report for that day when we know they were directly involved?"

Gordon says a 1961 Air Force intelligence document describing the function of a three-man team offers the first clue that there are specialized units involved in UFO retrievals.

Among their functions, the records indicate, is the quick retrieval of UFO and known Soviet

bloc aerospace vehicles, weapons systems or residual components of such equipment.

"It's the first good documentation there were, and still are, specialized teams used for quick response to pick up UFOs or debris or foreign space equipment," says Gordon.

According to Gordon, other documents support the belief that the Air Force continued to investigate UFOs under such code names as Project Moonshot, even though the Air Force's official investigation into UFOs ended in December 1969, the same month the 662nd Radar Squadron was deactivated.

"Indications are it is still active, possibly under a different name but it's being done under the cover of NASA, the Department of State," says Gordon.

His group is still trying to get the word out that it is investigating the incident and has appealed to anyone who may have witnessed the falling object to contact them. "We would also like anybody at all who was at the scene that night, especially anybody who saw any of the military personnel, vehicles or operations during the night to contact us."

All of the witnesses are being interviewed by Virginia Tilly of Stevensville, a field investigator for the Mutual UFO Network, the world's largest UFO reporting organization. Tilly is describing the UFO reports from the area as "major sightings," but she has declined to speculate about what the craft might be.

Meanwhile, Dennis Root, head of the control tower at Kalamazoo County Airport, said no reports of strange aircraft have been made to the airport tower in recent weeks, and nothing unusual has showed up on radar.

"I know when this has happened

before, when something comes out in the paper, we're going to get more calls," he said.

"I don't mean to downplay the person, but we do have a group of people in our society who want to be in the news. I would say that anytime anyone sees something it would be natural to call the airport and find out if there are aircraft flying over. We haven't gotten anything like that."

(continued from page 5 - GAZETTE, Kalamazoo, MI - Sept. 10, 1986)

see the lights and a shape, about 200 or 300 feet in the air. It was just sitting there and hovering."

The UFO moved silently in a northerly direction, toward Lawton, Neumann said, adding that he called the Cass County Sheriff's Department to report the sighting, "but they thought I was a wacko."

"I thought it was a spaceship. I still think it was. I don't care what anybody says," Neumann said he knows the sighting was on Aug. 1 because he wrote down the date and a description of the craft right after he saw it.

When Long and Jandura sighted the craft over Banksons Lake a short time later, they said they heard a young voice screaming from the shore, "What is it? What is it?" The voice apparently belonged to Chris Mriscin, a Hackett Catholic Central High School student who lives on the west side of the lake.

After Long's story appeared last Tuesday, Mriscin called the Gazette to say he had seen the UFO that night and yelled for his father and sister to come outside and see it.

"It was about 1,000 feet away, a slow-moving craft going over the lake," he said. "I thought maybe it was a helicopter, but there was no sound. I called my family out and we all saw it. We definitely saw something, just as he (Long) described it."

Around the same time, a woman who asked not to be identified said she was driving with her husband along Red Arrow Highway toward Mattawan when the couple "saw this terrific light streak. We did see this enormous thing in the sky. It was going up and then came down."

"Who knows what it was," she said. "My husband said it was a meteorite. I said nothing that big could fall and there be no report of damage. This left a yellow-green white light, a streak in the sky. It was close to the tops of the trees."

Next in the procession of UFO sightings came a report from three people who were driving on Baseline Road, the northern line of Van Buren County, between 10:30 and 11 p.m. on Aug. 1. A woman in the group, who also asked to not be identified, said she and her husband and a neighbor were returning to their homes on Baseline from a softball game in Kalamazoo that featured the nation's No. 1 team, Steele's Sports of Grafton, Ohio.

"We saw a very large object, with three red lights on the end," she said. "We thought it might be helicopters or planes flying in very tight formation, but it was moving very slowly so we followed it."

The trio followed the UFO along Baseline and then north on Doster Road, the eastern border of Allegan County, until it disappeared over a hill, she said.

"From what he (Long) described, it was same thing," she said. "It was huge. The sky was clear and you could see the lights. Between the lights there was a dark solid mass. It was very intense black surrounded by the night."

From there the craft apparently headed west toward Lake Michigan, where Phil Willson of Kalamazoo, standing on the porch of his lakeshore cottage near Glenn, saw a huge object with a bright light hovering over the lake around 11 p.m.

"My wife and I and our two children saw something that same evening," Willson said. "We walked out on the porch to look at the stars and saw something over the lake, about three or four miles out."

What caught our eye was the light effects. There was a tremendously large and extremely bright light at about 10 o'clock in the sky. It was extremely bright and got brighter and brighter, then it stayed at the same intensity, then it faded, then it would show up elsewhere.

"We saw it appear and reappear at bright intensity three or four times. It was almost like it was suspended in the air and spotting its light down, then it would reappear elsewhere."

"When I first saw it I thought it was Venus, but I knew it was too bright. Then I thought maybe it was a Coast Guard helicopter, because it was stationary with a spotlight. But I knew the distance-to-intensity ratio was way off. For a helicopter it was too bright, way too bright. And it wasn't moving."

Willson said he used a long-distance lens to look at the light and could make out "the definition of a lighting system" in the form of a large craft. "I figured it was something unusual," he said.

Several other people who read about Long's UFO experience last week also called the Gazette to report similar sightings, though not on Aug. 1. One woman said she saw the same type of UFO in the area in 1981, another said she saw a UFO over her trailer park in Kalamazoo last Wednesday and a man said he's seen the same UFO as Long on four different occasions over a fishing pond in central Kalamazoo County.

Other investigators, who mapped the flight of the object from Michigan to Pennsylvania, said it made an abrupt turn in flight, a change in course not possible for a meteor or bolide.

Gordon also doubts that the military would have shown much interest in a meteor, while the Kecksburg incident brought military and other government units to the tiny community.

And there was an air of secrecy about the military's activity that belies the discovery of meteorite particles. State police issued a statement that a thorough search of the woods was conducted and nothing was found. The area was roped off and civilians were not allowed in the area. Gordon says there were reports of an empty military truck brought into the site which carried something out, but he has never been able to confirm through the military if anything was discovered in the area of a steep ravine.

Gordon says there were also rumors that late at night a truckload of small trees and bushes were brought in and planted to disguise the site.

Gordon speculates that the military spent the evening transmitting information to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and NORAD's Cheyenne Mountain installation in Colorado from a command post set up at the Kecksburg fire hall.

"Meteorites do not stir the military unit to move to try to recover something," says Gordon. "We feel the public has a right to know what indeed crashed in the woods in Kecksburg at that time."

UFOs: aliens or moonlight?

Sightings frequently unexplained

(Second in a series)

By LORRAINE MULLICA

The very latest sighting was called into Teterboro Airport last month; Tower Chief Bill Lutzie got the call. "It was from the Oradell area," he said. "A woman said she saw a UFO. I got readings for six or seven helicopters on the Hudson River, but she said it wasn't that. We don't keep records on this sort of thing, though. We ask people to call the National UFO Reporting Center."

Most sightings in this area seem to fit into what are known as Category One or Category Two sightings. A Category One sighting is one in which a UFO is seen; in Category Two, the UFO is seen and leaves evidence of its presence behind.

An example of a Category Two sighting took place on the Wanaque Reservoir in Pompton Lakes in January 1966. As eyewitnesses reported in the TODAY newspapers at that time, a ray of light emanating from the ship created a warm spot on the surface of the frozen reservoir.

A Category Three sighting is one in which a person makes contact with a being from a UFO. The being is usually described as a four-foot tall bony creature with gray skin and slit eyes.

In Category Four sightings, which are rare, individuals claim to have been taken aboard the ship.

Since the Air Force finished Project Blue Book in 1969, it no longer collects data on such phenomenon.

According to Debbie Henderson, an Air Force public-affairs assistant in Washington D.C., where all UFO inquiries are directed these days, 12,618 sightings were reported to the Department of Defense from 1948 through 1969. Of that number, she said, 701



This object, seen flying through the sky over what is now Finch Park in Ramsey in August 1957, was photographed by a 16-year-old boy. Pictured

remain inexplicable.

Experts approximate that 80 to 95 percent of all UFOs are explainable. The Air Force states that people tend to mistake the following phenomena for UFO ships: balloons, planes, satellites, lightning, reflections, natural phenomena, planets, stars and the moon.

There are those, however, who concern themselves with the remaining five to 20 percent of the sightings that remain inexplicable.

Ed and Glory Mirabello, Rochelle Park residents who both

lecture on metaphysics, with Ed specializing in UFOs, theorize that the small unexplainable percentage could comprise interdimensional travelers who exist at a rate of vibration faster or slower than that of humans, beings from other planets in our solar system or out of our solar system who are here to help humankind.

If beings are to find out more about our planet, it would seem that flying in would be the way to do it. Sending messages from planet to planet is no small endeavor. Carl Sagan of Cornell University has suggested that if one



above is the progressive movement of the object as it flitted across the sky. (Photo courtesy of John Hay)

of the 200 billion stars in the Milky Way Galaxy sent us a message we receive tomorrow, it would have been sent in 1492.

Jean Munzer, director of the Metaphysical Center of New Jersey, said it is possible that those who inhabit UFOs are elder brothers in the universe concerned with our interfering with the cosmic balance of the solar system. The New York Post has reported the same thinking on the part of others active in the field, calling UFO inhabitants members of a "cosmic peace corps."

"With all the atomic testing we are doing here, it is possible they are concerned with the effect it will have on the solar system and the galaxy."

Munzer, who teaches a 12-course metaphysics program with Glory Mirabello and several others, said she reminds her students that UFOs are nothing new. She added that there are many Biblical references to these space ships and cited Ezekiel 1: 4-28 and 10:1-28 as examples. She also referred to Greek mythology.

"Yesterday, primitives attributed things they didn't understand to the gods," she said. "Today we look with scientific eyes. And while we may attribute such things to spiritual forces, we wouldn't necessarily call them actions of the gods."

Munzer said she remains skeptical of many UFO sightings. "If people believe in UFO manifestations," she said, "they tend to see them at every corner." This is not to say, however, that she discounts them.

"I know people who will not talk to the press about what they see," she said, "but they talk to me. I can see they're sincere because most of the time they're frightened and can't believe what they saw."

"They're ordinary people and they don't want others to think they're crazy," she added.

Readers who may have seen UFOs or who just want to know more about the subject can further explore the matter by taking classes offered by the metaphysical center this fall at adult schools in Paramus, Midland Park/Waldwick, Wayne and Pompton Lakes.

More information is available by calling Eileen Facas at 835-7335 between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. and between 7 and 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday or Harriet Wagniere at 835-6707 anytime. Or, contact the adult schools for a brochure.

In the meantime, keep your eye on the sky.

The words of an eyewitness

Howard Ball, editor of Suburban Trends newspaper in Butler, was one of the many who reported seeing a UFO on the Wanaque Reservoir January 1966. Here is his account of what he saw:

"I'll tell you what I told everybody. I saw something. I don't know what it was."

"I was in my car at the corner of Colfax Road and Hamburg Turnpike in Wayne. I knew exactly where I was. I looked out of the windshield of my car and I saw a bright light in the sky moving in an unusual manner."

"I remember that someone on

the radio said it was 6:19 (p.m.) so I knew exactly what time it was."

"I was working on the desk at The Paterson News at that time so I played reporter and I called every airport in the New York and New Jersey area to find out if they had any aircraft operational in that area at 6:19 p.m. I even called Stewart Air Force base, which used to be up in Newburgh, but that's not there anymore."

"Everyone told me they had no vehicles operational in the area of the Wanaque Reservoir at that time."

"The guy at Stewart Air Force

base asked me to explain what I saw. I told him, 'If I were to explain it to you in earthly terms, it could be a helicopter with a big strobe light on it.'"

"That night at midnight I was pulling copy off the AP wire and I saw there that Stewart Air Force base had determined the object was a helicopter with a strobe light on it, according to a report from a New Jersey newspaper editor."

"I'll never forget that, never forget it."

First UFO spotted in Madison skies in 1897

Madisonians tried to laugh it off when an unidentified flying object, presumed to be an "airship," flew over the city back in the horse-and-buggy days.

In a time when airships were in the experimental stage — none of them around here — and the airplane was still a dream, the airborne thing was seen on the northeast end of town on the night of April 11 and again on April 14, 1897.

Years later, on Sept. 21, 1910, a second sighting of a mysterious soaring object was reported by local residents. The first time it was seen the subject was treated with levity; the second appearance, 13 years later, was reported seriously.

The mysterious airborne things earned the names of UFOs and "flying saucers" after 1947 when a

Frank Custer's
MADISON



California man spotted a chain of "saucerlike things" in the upper air while he flew over the Cascade mountains in Oregon. His story sparked a rash of UFO sightings for decades, most of them fraudulent.

It would seem at this distance in time the UFO event of 1897 came up after a Chicago man who saw the thing that September day and had snapped a "true photograph" of it. His statement was supported by another Chicagoan who saw the first man take a picture of it.

That report of a cigar-shaped object with a propeller at the rear and its lower portion composed of white metal shaped like ship's keel caught the fancy of Madisonians.

Overnight Madison residents who had read about it in the newspaper became skywatchers.

The State Journal on April 12, 1897, carried a story in which unnamed townsmen told of their seeing an "object like an airship." It was "probably a star," said another.

Brilliant lights were reported, "especially by those who used opera glasses." The thing "wavered up and down just as the boats of the Aerial Rapid Transport line might be expected to do," the newspaper story said.

A Fifth Ward man said the object was shaped like a catamaran. An-

other man said he read the name "Star Tickler" on the object's side.

"A lady who was brought up with the Indians and has very sharp hearing, says she caught a glimpse of a face laughing as if it would split and heard a voice say, 'has the sucker fishing began down there yet?'"

A few people phoned the Washburn Observatory on the University campus where a person answered and told them he didn't feel disposed to take the matter seriously. The ship, he said, had first been viewed in California in 1896.

"Perhaps the gazers saw the lights of steamers on (Lake) Mendota. Unfortunately the boating season is not yet open," said the Journal story.

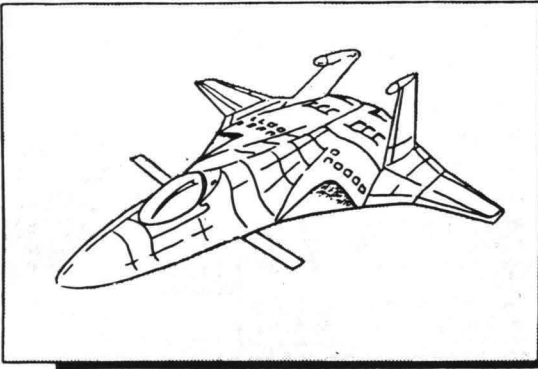
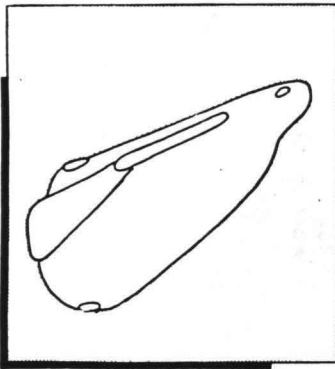
The second UFO phenomenon occurring in 1910 was witnessed by a

number of family members living in the North Livingston and North Brearly streets vicinity.

The people, according to a State Journal story, saw "a ship approaching from the north, headed south across Lake Mendota." They described it as "slowing down, descending, hovering, as if seeking a place to land, then flying off to the southwest." (Sounds like more recent reports of UFOs).

The witnesses were Mrs. Nils Starck, 218 N. Livingston St., widow of a local realtor; Mrs. Mary Malaney, 208 N. Brearly St., a clerk at the Keeley, Neckerman and Kessenich store; members of the families of Joe Helms, 210 N. Livingston St., a house painter.

A special Air Force commission, named to investigate UFOs since 1947, recently has begun to wind down its research, with no firm conclusions about the existence of UFOs.



Drawing (left) of object John Long says he spotted and (right) a Stealth bomber some theorize he may have seen.

GAZETTE ILLUSTRATION / CYNTHIA STOPER

UFO!

Sighting left him shaken, eyes burning

MIKE MAGNER
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

Not everyone will believe John Long's story about the huge unidentified flying object he and his friend saw over Banksons Lake near Lawton on the evening of Aug. 1.

So far, though, all of the dozen or so people he's told about his UFO experience have taken him seriously, Long said last week.

The believers include Long's fishing buddy, Richard Jandura, whose eyes watered and burned for days after he watched the massive UFO fly low overhead, and members of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), who are investigating the sighting.

"It's a very credible report. Very credible," said Shirley Coyne of Flushing, director of MUFON's Michigan chapter.

What Long and Jandura claim to have seen around 10:30 p.m. that clear evening was a giant spacecraft

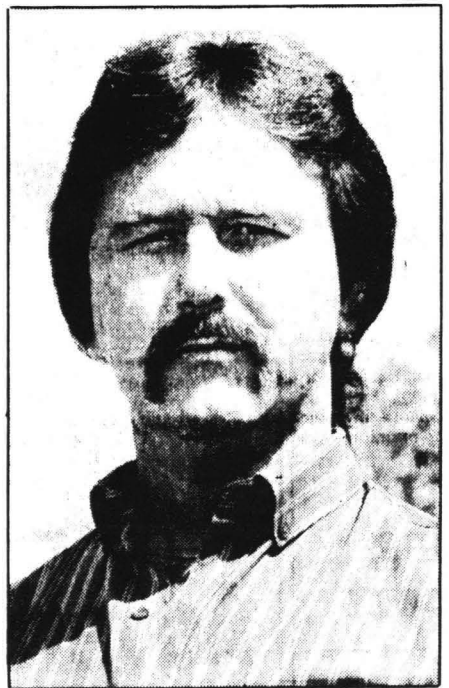
— about the size of Wings Stadium, Long said — with a bright light in front and three red lights blinking on each side.

As the craft moved slowly from the southeast toward the northwest about 200 to 300 feet over the lake, the white light in front suddenly flashed brilliantly and went out, Long said.

Although there were several other fishermen on the lake, apparently none of them saw the UFO because it moved with absolute silence, he said. The flash of light was beamed toward the front of craft, so it did not reflect off the water, he said.

However, Long said, he and Jandura heard a young boy on the shore yelling "What is it? What is it?" as the UFO traveled slowly across the lake for about 15 minutes. Long and the MUFON investigators are still trying to locate the boy or anyone else who saw the UFO, he said.

As the craft moved off in the direction of South Ha-



GAZETTE PHOTO / JERRY CAMPBELL

John Long, observer of giant spacecraft.

ven, Long and Jandura said they noticed a wavy pattern in the air behind it, as though some type of exhaust was being emitted.

Long, who lives in Portage and has been a supervisor at Walgreen Laboratories for 10 years, said he and Jandura had been fishing for about four hours before the sighting, but had consumed no alcohol or drugs.

Shaken by their experience, Long and Jandura immediately contacted the control tower at the Kalamazoo County Airport, but were told that nothing had been seen on radar and no reports of anything unusual

had been received.

They next notified the state police post in Paw Paw. "When I called the police, the first thing I said was 'This is not a hoax,'" Long said. "The state trooper was fantastic. He calmed us down and took the information. At the end he said he believed both of us."

Sgt. James Richardson of the state police confirmed that Long and Jandura made a report and that troopers went to the Banksons Lake area to investigate, but found nothing unusual and no other witnesses besides Long and Jandura.

"The officers that went down there, they were talking about it later, and they said he (Long) seemed quite sincere," Richardson said.

The troopers told Long to call the Federal Aviation Administration in Grand Rapids, and an FAA official gave him the phone number for the MUFON reporting service in Seattle, Wash., Long said. MUFON assigned Virginia Tilly of Stevensville to investigate the report.

Tilly and another MUFON field investigator, Dee Allan, interviewed Long and Jandura about their experience, but so far have been unable to locate any other witnesses, Tilly said last week.

Still, Tilly said the sighting described by the two men "right now is being classified as an excellent report. There are at least two witnesses. There is a great deal of detailed information."

Long said his eyes watered for about two days after watching the UFO, and Jandura reported the same problem for several more days.

Jandura has since moved to Chicago and could not be reached by the Kalamazoo Gazette, but Allan interviewed him four days after the sighting and reported that "the whites of his eyes were completely pink and burning. They were very mattered and puffy. The left eye was in the worst condition with swelling and discoloration beneath the eye."

Allan told Tilly that Jandura's doctor diagnosed his problem as "pink eye" and prescribed antibiotics. However, Long said he and

(continued on page 9)

STAR, Anniston, AL - Oct. 9, 1986 CR: L. Phillips

UFO sightings

Experts prefer folks decide for themselves

By ELIZABETH HARTIGAN
Los Angeles Daily News

VAN NUYS, Calif. — When it comes to UFOs, everyone is an expert.

"Everything is true, because it's a matter of perception," said Dore Bedell of Santa Monica. An open mind, he said, is the best preparation for lectures sponsored by the National Investigations Committee on Unidentified Flying Objects.

Is there a lost race of humanoids living inside the hollow Earth? Is the government deliberately covering up reports of UFO encounters? Wouldn't you like to know?

"We prefer that people make up their own minds," said Frank Stranges, committee director and author of four UFO books.

Believers and skeptics come from far away to the Van Nuys group's monthly meetings. There is a requested \$5 donation. Lecturers address such topics as the hollow earth, government efforts to cover up UFO sightings and the mystery of the surface of Mars, which some people say is inhabited by intelligent beings.

Bedell, 29, who has flown to Switzerland twice to investigate a UFO sighting, thinks alien craft do zip through the atmosphere. The seed sales representative has never seen a UFO himself, but he knows

people who have, and he is convinced that extraterrestrials have been visiting Earth for years to teach people where Earth civilizations have gone wrong.

"AS FAR AS I know, 128 races have visited Earth. This is according to Billy Mier's cosmonauts, which I thought was a hoax until I went over there," Bedell visited Mier, a Swiss farmer, and saw the photos and films he shot of creatures from the planet Pleiades. Pleiadians have visited Mier in their flying saucers numerous times, Bedell said.

Edward Lopez of North Hollywood hasn't seen any UFOs since he began looking in 1957, but he's not discouraged. His home is stocked with four cameras and a telescope, and he often scans the heavens with his zoom binoculars. He attended a UFO convention in Culver City last year and has spent the night at Castaic Lake, hoping to spot a UFO where the air is clear.

Lopez, 48, who helped edit a New York monthly magazine called Beyond Reality and a quarterly UFO Update in 1978, then moved to California the following year because he thought he'd be more likely to see a UFO here. "The majority of the reports are wrong, are hoaxes," he said.

His interest was piqued when he heard that Harley Bird, the nephew of South Pole explorer Adm. Richard Bird, was going to speak at the committee meeting about the government conspiracy to withhold information on UFOs.

PROFESSORIAL in a blue jacket and khaki pants, Bird promised an audience of about 40 he would reveal

information the government had kept hidden from the public for decades. "I'm a Virgo-Libra, so I deal with facts and figures," he said. He is familiar with the subject, he says, because he spent two years in the '50s working in the offices of the U.S. Air Force "Blue Book" Project, which examined UFO reports.

Bird's uncle made an important discovery he wrote about in an unpublished diary, said his nephew. "He flew into the center of the Earth and discovered another race, but they wouldn't let him tell about it. We now know there's an inner continent in the Earth." The opening to the inner Earth, later photographed by U.S. astronauts, appears in photos as a black dot at the North Pole, Bird said.

He said more than 77 alien bodies are being studied in government holding tanks. There may be more than 100 now, because some have been recovered from the ice in the Soviet Union. "I've seen photographs as well as bodies in tanks," he said.

Based on information from the Pleiadians given to Billy Mier, Bird said there are 680 inhabited planets.

Bird added that no one should be afraid of extraterrestrial creatures, and that personally, he likes space aliens.

Bird has fond memories of the time when an alien race contacted him on Aug. 19, 1964. He was driving north out of Big Sur and blacked out for eight hours. When he woke up, he was sitting by the side of the road in lotus position — and he knew aliens had beamed him up to visit with him during those missing hours.

Jandura are convinced their eye problems were caused by the UFO. He said they have offered to take lie-detector tests to bolster their claims.

"If we can't explain what it is, we just have to say it's an unidentified flying object," Tilly said. "We can't very well speculate. We have to investigate and make sure before saying it's a UFO."

Walter H. Andrus of Seguin, Texas, MUFON's international director, said his organization - the world's largest UFO reporting group with about 1,500 members - receives about 2,000 reports of UFO sightings every year.

About 80 to 90 percent of those reports, "after a thorough investigation, can be explained as something mundane: satellites, planets, falling objects, planes, etc.," Andrus said.

Although the UFO described by Long and Jandura might fit the description of the U.S. military's top-secret Stealth bomber - a jet fighter said to be able to avoid radar detection - Andrus said "they certainly aren't operating those in Michigan."

Long said he, too, wondered whether the craft was some type of experimental U.S. airplane, especially since the light in front was white and the lights toward the rear were red.

"The investigator said the United States does have a lot of experimental craft," he said. "But why do it in a populated area? Why not over the ocean or desert?"

"I didn't think it was any kind of craft to my knowledge. A Stealth bomber? No, I don't think so, just from what I know. With no sound, you realize what kind of energy it took to keep it up. And it moved very slowly."

"I'm not saying for sure what it is. It was a spacecraft, but was it ours? It could be. It could be from somewhere else."

"I think anyone well-educated would be foolish not to think there is other life besides us."

Long said he was hesitant at first to go public with his story, but the positive reaction he received from those he told about the UFO helped change his mind.

Downed plane fails to materialize

A 14-hour search near Circleville was abandoned Monday afternoon when local law enforcement officials satisfied themselves that, contrary to several independent reports, no plane crash had transpired there the night before. The Jackson County Sheriff's office received five telephone calls beginning at 8:48 p.m. Sunday. The callers all reported seeing a light in the sky that slowly descended to the ground.

The callers couldn't actually say they saw a plane, and they didn't actually see anything hit the ground, Collins said. "They were looking at this from a distance of one to two miles and they thought it could have been a plane," he said.

The three-mile area that was extensively searched Sunday

night and Monday was southwest of Circleville. The searching teams went to the area at 8:40 p.m. Sunday and searched until 3:30 a.m. Monday before fog forced them to end the search. The search was continued the next morning with men on horseback, the sheriff's posse, walkers, civil defense units, Highway Patrol officers, helicopters from the Topeka police and WIBW, law enforcement units from Atchison County and several local volunteers.

Collins said there was no sighting of anything unusual; the search was called off at 2:30 p.m. Monday. He said the Federal Aviation Administration had reported no missing planes in this area. "Of course, if we receive more information, we'll go back and work it," he said.

PRESS HERALD, Portland, ME - Sept. 19, 1986 CR: MUFON

UFO 'captive' recalls encounter

THORNTON, N.H. (AP) — Betty Hill shows no fear as she walks from a back road in Thornton onto a wide path that leads into the woods, but the first time she remembers being here was different.

"They dragged me, kicking and screaming," she said, speaking of kidnappers who she said blocked the road, took her and husband out of their car and yanked them into the woods to be examined — in a flying saucer.

Twenty-five years ago today, the Hills arrived home in Portsmouth after a drive through the White Mountains puzzled by stains and tears on Betty's dress, scuffs on Barney's shoes, shiny spots on their car, watches that had stopped and no memory of two hours of the trip.

After the void was filled for them through hypnosis, their account of being kidnapped by beings from another solar system made the Hills immediate celebrities. The book, "The Interrupted Journey" tells their story.

"Right here is where they were standing," Hill, 67, said on a recent return to the spot where she says she was captured. "And this is where they took us," she said, heading into the woods.

Until their 1964 hypnosis, the Hills remembered only being followed by a bright object in the night sky as they drove south through New Hampshire from Montreal to Portsmouth. They remembered turning off the main road onto a dirt road and stalling out after being confronted by "strange men" in the road. That's all.

On her return to the area, Hill stood in Franconia Notch, near the famed Old Man Of the Mountain rock profile. She said the flying craft that stalked them in 1961 stopped when it reached a ridge near the profile, then "waited for us to catch up to them, then followed along the contours of the top of the mountains."

She thought it was a UFO; Barney thought it was a plane or satellite and wanted to put the whole thing out of his mind after returning home.

But Betty had nightmares about being captured and Barney's health began failing. When he did not respond to medication, a doctor suspected emotional problems and suggested hypnosis. During one session he mentioned being captured by strange beings. Betty, under separate hypnosis, recounted the same events and the story began to unfold.

The beings, they recounted, approached as Barney tried to restart the car, took them from the car and through the woods to a



Betty Hill stands near the spot where she says she and her husband were abducted 25 years ago today by strange beings in a flying saucer.

glowing object in the forest.

"I was fighting," Hill said. "I'm probably the first person in the world who took a sock at them."

As evidence, she still has the torn and stained dress she wore that night.

Standing in a clearing that she said was the landing spot, she described a thorough, medical-type examination that, when recalled under hypnosis, evoked terror in her and in Barney, who died in 1969.

She said returning was "a weird feeling, something like maybe going back to the spot where you had a car accident or something."

"Somebody suggested that I buy the land and build a restaurant shaped like a UFO," she said. She's not interested.

But the incident did spark her interest in UFOs. She regularly visits a secluded spot near Portsmouth that she calls "her area," where she reports seeing them all the time.

"It's not frightening now," she

said. "I go out there and watch them and they don't make any threatening gestures at me. If they did, or if one came too close, I'd still leave. But to me, they are astronauts from another solar system."

She said she and Barney tried repeatedly to retrace their 1961 route, but could not find their capture spot until sometime after the hypnosis.

Their psychiatrist had told them, she said, that they would stop searching, but that if the spot existed, they somehow would find it.

A year or so later, they rode through the mountains with relatives searching for a place to camp.

"All of a sudden we got up here and said, 'Oh my God!' We recognized the place immediately. We came down here, stopped the car, jumped out and ran up here, up the path," she said.

She said that for a while after the hypnosis, she tried to pass off the incident as a bad dream.

"For a while I tried to tell myself it never happened, because there was a lot of pressure. So I'd go to bed and say, 'I'll forget it. It never happened.' But then, after a while, I couldn't do that anymore."

Hill is not fazed by people who don't believe her story.

"I say, 'You're entitled to your opinion, but if it happens to you, you know who to contact.'"

Hill gives lectures on UFOs and her experience. Her main message is, "They are here."

She said people who have never seen a UFO probably don't know what to look for. "I say anytime you see a light in the sky, check it out."

A rainbow appeared over her head as she stood at the capture spot.



Post-Crescent photo by Dave Pieper

Out of this world

Women say they were abducted by space aliens

By Tom Richards

Post-Crescent staff writer

MENASHA — Judie Woolcott said she and her friend and colleague Bonnie Meyer have been abducted by aliens from other planets seven times. She said that the aliens put microscopic implants behind her ears. They have seen numerous spacecraft from other worlds.

At one point in the conversation, she looked at the reporter and said, "You think we're weird, don't you?" It wasn't a hostile remark. Neither she nor Meyer is like that. Truth to tell, they are effusive and jovial, especially about their odd dedication.

The reporter had to admit that he did.

"I knew that," she said.

But the two Menasha women, who have been chasing unidentified flying objects together for a dozen years, insist "We're not kooks."

Meyer added, "We've gotten so used to being called kooks and crazy that we don't pay any attention to it anymore."

They are nominal heads of a loosely knit group called the Fox Valley UFO Discussion & Support Group that meets Sunday nights in the little room where they agreed to be interviewed.

It is at the back of 64 Racine St., in a building Woolcott owns and in which she formerly operated Custom Cakes and Catering. It contains the "library," a collection of books that includes such varied volumes as studies of UFOs and books on spiritualist Edgar Cayce. The walls

Bonnie Meyer, left, and Judie Woolcott compare notes in their UFO library in Menasha.

are plastered with clippings, mostly from the grocery-store tabloids, that tell of encounters with space aliens.

Woolcott first got involved years ago when she photographed the streaking light of a UFO. And Meyer got involved, she said, when she wanted to have her long-time friend Woolcott committed to a mental institution because of it. They laugh about it now.

Meyer and Woolcott only within the past year discovered that they have been abducted, they said, though these abductions date back as far as 11 years.

"We didn't know we were abducted," Woolcott said.

"A lot of people are abducted and they don't know it," said Meyer.

"Your mind blocks it out."

The two women, from their long association and their common interest, are inclined to finish each other's sentences.

They made the discovery about the abductions, the implants behind Woolcott's ears and other things through hypnotherapy, they said. They have periodic sessions with a Milwaukee hypnotherapist who is sympathetic with the UFO cause.

On six occasions, they said they found through the deep hypnosis, they were abducted together. Each had one separate abduction from home at another time.

Woolcott declined to elaborate on her single abduction, but Meyer said she was taken from her home while her family slept. She said she attempted to call out to them for help, but the space aliens had placed the others in the house in a state of suspended animation, and they were unable to respond.

Woolcott recalled that the implants were placed behind her ears on one occasion aboard an alien craft. It was extremely painful, she said,

and she hears "static" in her ears when she rattles items in a silverware drawer or rummages in her jewelry box. Sometimes she hears a buzzing for hours.

She believes that the aliens use these implants to force feed information into her brain, information that she will be able to use as the need arises.

"I'm not supposed to understand yet," she said. "We are being taught to help the people of Earth. We are being taught to be teachers."

"When the time is right, the information is there. I don't have the faintest idea what it is."

One of their joint abductions, they said, occurred after a UFO meeting in Appleton. Meyer said that their two families were camping at New London at the time. The two women left Appleton at 10:30 p.m., after the meeting. They did not arrive at the campsite, a drive they since have timed at 32 minutes, until 1:30 a.m. They were not certain what had become of the lost time.

All of this emerged, they said, from their hypnosis, which is a common form of such discovery among UFO believers, they said.

They were shaken to tears when they learned of the abductions, they said.

"I said, 'Oh, my God, we really were aboard a spacecraft,'" Woolcott said. "It's one thing to say it, but it's another to find out that it's true."

"Thankfully, we've had each other, otherwise we wouldn't be able to handle it," Meyer said.

They also have been on another planet, Woolcott said, one 93 minutes away aboard the alien's craft, according to their subconscious memory under hypnosis.

Periodically they receive tapes of such sessions from a woman in Texas who shares their interest, and they said there are amazing similarities between their own experiences and hers.

One of the things they found, too, is that the space creatures don't look like Earthlings.

"That's one of the things we want to share, that we don't look like them," said Woolcott.

Both women attended a convention in Seattle this summer, one that attracted mostly people, like them, who believe that they have had encounters with aliens.

The convention was not large, they said, but the number of believers is growing. That is evidenced by the reaction they get to the cable television program they do Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. over local access channel 8 on the Cablevision of the Fox Cities system.

It is live, with open phones, and most of the callers are serious in their inquiries.

And the network of those who are interested is growing, they said. "We have contact with people all over the world," Meyer said.

"All over the universe," Woolcott corrected.

REVIEW, Toppenish, WA - Sept. 10, 1986

What's half the size of a football field and flies?

UFO buzzes area, spotted by policemen

BY ANN LEIGHTY

Strange lights were seen in the skies over Zillah early Thursday morning that have many people wondering about the possibility of UFOs.

One person who saw the lights close up was Brian Buschini, a reserve officer with the Zillah Police Department.

Buschini was first alerted about the lights by the Wapato Police Department who called him a few minutes before 5 a.m. to say they had seen strange lights over the Zillah area.

"I went out to take a look and I saw a light over in the Granger/Sunnyside area," he said. "I drove in

that direction to get a better look and while I was watching a red light came out of the first object.

"It just hovered there next to the first one for a few minutes and then they both continued east towards Sunnyside," said Buschini.

After seeing the UFOs, he returned to the police station and called Wapato police to say he had seen the lights. While still on the phone, the Wapato dispatcher told Buschini that another light was headed towards Zillah.

"I ran outside of the station and just looked up and I saw this thing," said Buschini. The time of the second sighting was between 5:15 and 5:30 a.m.

"It seemed fairly close to the ground, probably about a mile or so up in the air and it appeared to be the size of about half of a football field.

"The bottom of the object was oval shaped, and it was definitely a solid mass because it blocked out the stars in the sky. And there was absolutely no noise.

"All over the bottom were hundreds of bright white strobe lights blinking," said Buschini.

One side of the object was also covered with a light that kept turning different shades of green and blue while the other part was shades of red and orange.

The object moved at a slow pace,

he said, and went over Zillah and moved northeast towards Rattlesnake Hill. While watching the UFO's flight, Buschini again saw the first pair of objects he viewed hovering over the Sunnyside area.

Buschini said he was not frightened by the experience, but rather when it was occurring he had a strange, calm feeling. "I have no idea what I saw, and I am not going to guess.

"I will say that they were not airplanes or helicopters. I have never seen anything like that before," he added.

He also said that the Yakima County Sheriff's Office, the Yakima Firing Range, Seattle Air Control and the Seattle UFO Tracking

Center all said that nothing had showed up on their screens or should have been in the sky that morning.

When questioned if he had seen any more lights in the sky, Buschini replied, "No comment."

Several other strange sightings are being reported by area residents, but most remain leary of saying anything about their encounters.

A Toppenish police officer, who remains unidentified, allegedly even took a picture of an object in the sky early Friday morning. Reports also said that the officer in turn has sold all rights to his photos to the Cable News Network for an undisclosed amount of money.



FOREIGN NEWS

TIMES, Katherine, N.T., Australia - Sept. 18, 1986

NTEC discounts UFO theory and blames other flying things

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY Electricity Commission has discounted the theory that Unidentified Flying Objects were responsible for the lengthy power failure in the Larrimah, Katherine and Pine Creek area on Monday evening.

Reports from Roper Bar, Gove and Darwin of a brightly coloured object "falling" through the sky reached police on Tuesday morning.

All reports put the UFO in the Katherine region at the same time as the power failed and telephones apparently went on the blink.

But NTEC spokesman Bob Young said a flying fox caused an initial power breakdown when

things

oured objects "were definitely not flares", and did not come from an aeroplane.

He was unable to clearly describe what he saw, or what he thought he saw.

Darwin Bureau of Meteorology has no "physical" explanation for the event, and received no unusual reports from weather observers.

Another reported sighting was in South Australia!

It landed on the main Katherine feeder, a problem which was exacerbated when the main protection system failed at the same time.

Blackouts lasted from 20 minutes to 90 minutes in some areas, but power was fully restored by 11pm.

Reports of flying objects came from Darwin man Rick Trippe who said the brightly col-

EVENING POST, Nottingham, England - Sept. 22, 1986

As others might see our planet

RECENTLY on TV a number of people were claiming that they had seen UFOs and expressing their belief that alien beings are patrolling our planet.

If this is true, I wonder what the little green men make of us.

I wonder how they explain how we spend hundreds of thousands of pounds on keeping self-confessed murderers alive and yet condemn innocent kidney sufferers to death for lack of funds?

When they see our elderly folk who have lived through at least one world war viciously attacked and robbed in their own homes, can they be otherwise than puzzled that these people suffer more from their fellow countrymen than they ever did at the hands of the Hun?

When they witness the dreadful consequences of the accident at Chernobyl, which caused and will continue to cause, for many years, death and devastation, not only in the immediate vicinity but reaches out to endanger human and animal life even in our own country, can they judge us otherwise than quite mad to continue with any kind of nuclear production? And do they wonder why the people of this nation are not taking NIREX to court, rather than the other way round?

And, do they despair of the human race, as I do, when our national press reports that a man had enticed an infant of three into his van and sexually assaulted her, and yet sees a Jersey gorilla display human compassion, concern, and dare I say humanity, towards a small child than we apparently do?

If they really are out there, are they benign? If so, can they dare leave us to our own devices for very much longer? Or are they an astral equivalent of Sir David Attenborough making their own documentary of life on earth?

Or perhaps we are the most popular comedy show on their own planetary TV. More sinister, perhaps they are our enemies just biding their time until we inevitably destroy ourselves. I wonder!

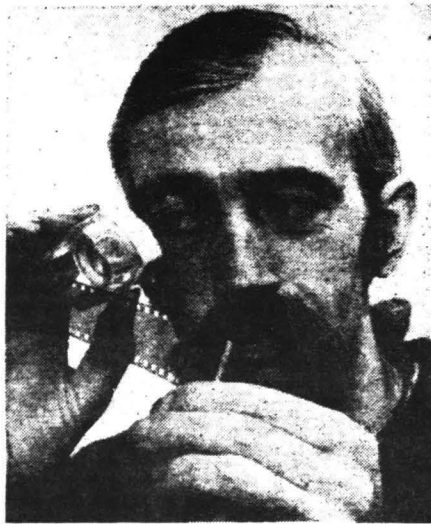
SHEILA WHEATCROFT (MRS)

Tranby Gardens, Wollaton.

CR: T. Good

SUNDAY TIMES, Perth, W.A., Australia
Aug. 24, 1986 CR: P. Norman

★ OUR story last week about the face on Mars, photographed by NASA's Mariner and Viking space probes prompted a strong response from readers. The story of the fascinating picture was based on a book by Brian Crowley and James Hurtack, published by Sun Books. The picture was one of many taken in 1976, but it was not until later that they became crystal clear after two scientists devised a computer image enhancer which showed the object on Mars had obvious human features. Sutherland Primary School pupils in Dianella are studying the riddle of the red planet, and a Perth man suddenly remembered a photograph of a UFO that appeared on a roll of film he shot while flying to Perth from the UK in 1974. Here are their stories.



PETERBOROUGH EVENING TELGRAPH, Northants, England
Sept. 5, 1986 CR: T. Good

Riddle is no corny joke!

THERE'S something very strange going on in the cornfields of Hampshire...

Giant circles have appeared in the fields around Winchester again this month... as they have every harvest for the last 50 years.

Farmers thought the rings, some as wide as 68ft in diameter, were caused by freak winds. "No," say the weathermen. "We think they've been made by hooligans."

"No," say the police. "We've kept overnight watches on the fields and never seen anyone."

PERPLEXED

"Anyway, some of the original vandals when it first started 50 years ago would be dead by now or they're passing secrets down through the family!"

"How could a human do it, anyway?" asked a perplexed inspector. "The rings are so big, they'd need hundreds of men — or machines. And someone would hear it. We are certain they are definitely NOT man-made."

Was it a space ship? The British UFO Association thinks not. "The corn would have been burned where the ship landed," said a spokesman.

Meanwhile, American visitors are flocking to the fields, which the locals know only as the... Devil's Punchbowl.

WATFORD & WEST HERTS POST, Watford, England - Sept. 4, 1986

'Media is under mystery influence'

REVELATIONS that mysterious influences caused the press to ignore a startling theory about aliens on Earth are soon to be made by Rickmansworth's UFO expert, Gordon Creighton.

Mr Creighton, a retired diplomat, will publish the revelations and repeat the theory in the magazine *Flying Saucer Review*, which he edits from his home in Cedars Avenue.

In June there had been wide media interest in which the French astronomer and physicist, Dr Jacques Vallee, expounded his belief that visiting aliens do not come from outer space but break through into our world from another dimension.

Dr Vallee, who was Steven Spielberg's adviser for *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and was the model for the French scientist Lacombe in the film, said many aliens were already here, unrecognised and observing the human race.

He added, however: "When we do see them arrive or depart, it's listed as a UFO sighting."

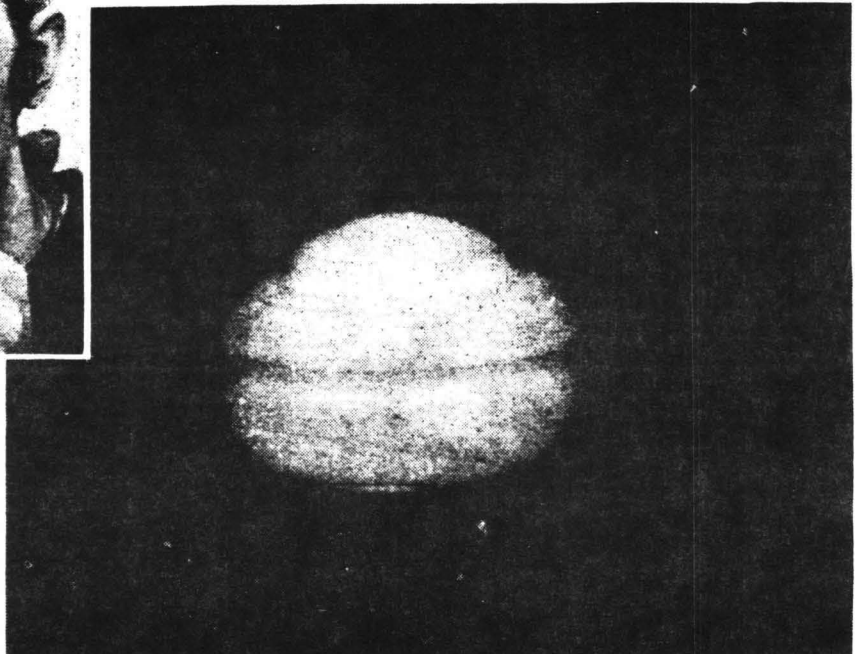
Mr Creighton is now sure that the aliens used a form of telepathy to deter the media from publishing Dr Vallee's theory, as only one newspaper reported the lecture.

He says: "This is alien control, and the aliens are not necessarily benevolent. I think this control is responsible for the mess the world is in."

"I also think the aliens are most anxious that they shouldn't be rumoured. For that reason they spread the theory that aliens were extra-terrestrial, rather than from another dimension."

Mr Creighton, who has previously told of spacecraft being found crashed with dead aliens inside, intends putting forward the multi-dimensional theory and discussing the press blackout in *Flying Saucer Review*, probably in the same issue as he explained the recent circular depressions in cornfields in Hampshire and Wiltshire.

CR: T. Good



□ John Parsons (inset, above left) studying his film and (above) the developed print of his 1974 snapshot.

Cloud snaps developed into UFO mystery

ON a June afternoon in 1974, John Parsons was in a window seat on a BOAC jumbo jet flying across the Indian Ocean from Bahrain to Singapore.

He spent considerable time photographing attractive cloud formations beyond the jet's wing tip.

His 35mm camera also captured something his eye had not seen — a UFO.

A few days later in Perth, Mr Parsons, a British migrant, gave his roll of color film to a professional photographer friend to process.

When he collected his film he discovered a strange dot in the centre of one negative. An enlargement revealed the mystery object.

For 12 years Mr Parsons kept the photograph and negative filed away. He brought them to the *Sunday Times* this week after

his father, a retired flight sergeant with the RAF long-range desert group, rang us to discuss the photograph after reading about the face on Mars.

No trick

John Parsons, 36, a freelance photographer who lives in Kalamunda, said: "At the time I took the photograph I was well aware of UFO incidents and the world-wide interest in them. However, I didn't do anything about it because I didn't want to be bothered by sceptics dismissing the object as a shirt button or a door knob."

He is adamant the object was not the result of trick photography. He said: "I would be quite happy for the RAAF or any other scientific body to examine

my negative, provided I am guaranteed it will be returned to me."

And he added: "I am convinced UFOs do exist, even if most reported sightings can be explained away as natural phenomena or man-made objects seen from odd angles."

"It is hard to believe we are the only intelligent beings capable of travelling through space. But until it can be proved UFOs do exist, all we can do is accept these sightings at face value."

Mrs Joan Johnston, of the Perth UFO Research Group, said John's mysterious

object was typical of the type reported in WA over many years. She said the negative and photograph could be examined by researchers in the eastern States and the US.

The Perth UFO Research Group has catalogued more than 50 incidents in 10 years.

UFOs have been reported in areas throughout WA by a variety of people including policemen, farmers and professional fishermen. Information on some of the incidents have been requested by RAAF headquarters in Canberra.

ANGLERS SPOT UFO



● THEY'RE coming... Brothers Joseph and Clive Goode tell of their close encounter. Picture: Pete Spencer.

TWO fishermen are convinced that visitors from another world passed over Daventry this week.

They are challenging experts to explain the appearance of six Unidentified Flying Objects over the Country Park early on Tuesday morning.

For brothers Clive and Joseph Goode claim they saw "aliens" as the sun was rising over the reservoir.

"I stood there absolutely dumbfounded. I've never seen anything like it," says Clive who lives in Walsgrave, Coventry.

They say that six objects came across the sky from the direction of Long Buckby. They were in formation with a large object at the front.

The UFO's made a whirring noise and two of them left wispy trails in the sky, the brothers claim. Geese on the reservoir were "going crazy" as the objects passed and disappeared in the direction of Preston Capes.

By
John Howes

Clive and Joseph were spending their first day fishing at the Country Park and had set up tackle at about 6 am, before the sun rose.

The objects appeared shortly afterwards at about the height of low clouds, and were out of sight within a few seconds.

"It happened so quick," says Joseph who works on the production line at British Leyland. "I reached for my camera, but it was too late."

"If you'd seen it yourself, you wouldn't have believed it. I wish it wasn't true because I spend a lot of time out fishing and this has put me right off," he told the Weekly Express.

"I have always been interested in UFO's but I never really believed they existed. If anyone tells me this was a balloon or a jet-fighter, they have got to be joking," adds Joseph.

He says that a jet-fighter passed over

several minutes before the UFO's — but that the unidentified objects were travelling much faster than any planes.

The brothers say they were fishing a fortnight ago at Stanford near Lutterworth when they saw a bright light moving in the sky. They believe that the Ministry of Defence could be testing new weapons in the area.

"It was something unexplained. Do we have something that far advanced?" asks Joseph.

Sgt Tony Picketts of Daventry Police says he will be advising aviation authorities of the sighting and they may wish to launch an investigation. He is not aware of any defence exercises in the area.

He says he believes the objects may be caused by condensation from a jet aircraft which had just passed over. He says when pilots adjust the throttles, there is a "blip" in condensation trails which give the appearance of smoke rings.

And he urges anyone else who saw the objects to report the sightings to the police.

Close encounter

The other day we reported a spate of unidentified flying objects sighted over Luxembourg. From what my colleagues tell me it is clear Leicestershire is equally attractive to our extraterrestrial visitors.

Apparently milkman Mr. Dave Poole, aged 37, of Birch Hill Cottage, Copt Oak, was out and about early one morning when he saw a glowing object enter the earth's atmosphere and break up.

And at the same time factory security man Mr. Dennis Strong, aged 57, of Coleman Road, North Evington, looked up in Canon Street, Belgrave, to see four bright objects flashing through the sky at great speed.

Both say a conventional jet flew in and circled overhead soon afterwards as though investigating.

CR: T. Good

CAMBRIAN NEWS, Dyfed, Wales
Sept. 19, 1986 CR: J. & C. Bord
**WEIRD WONDERS
OF WALES**

Those lights in the sky

Last week, I quoted from a letter from Mrs. R. of Lampeter. She and her husband saw an orange light, rectangular in shape with the outline of a cross at its centre. She continues:-

"On another night in late Spring this year at about 8 p.m. when it was almost dark and when there were no leaves on the trees, I saw an orange globe-shaped light float across the sky over our house and into the distance through the trees."

"It was much bigger than a star but not as big as the moon, or so it seemed. It went very much slower than a shooting star, so that I could follow it with my eye for five or ten seconds at least. This again travelled from south-east to north-west (approx.) and disappeared into the distance on the other side of Cefn Bryn towards Temple Bar".

Note that Mrs. R.'s globe floated and was slow moving. The colour of many objects about which readers have written is orange. I know Mars is similar in colour, but I don't think anyone could suggest that all such sightings can be of the planet. And planets or stars will not be seen to 'float'. Shooting stars can be put down to meteors or, as was mentioned last week, 'space debris' created by humankind.

Dafydd G. wrote from Tremadog about a sighting in the 1950's at Chwilog, Caernarfonshire:-

"The light was observed on 28 August, 1953. The whole affair is included by a Mrs. G. of Birmingham in a letter to the Rev. W. Rector of Llan... at the time. An orange light was seen at a quarter to three in the morning. Mrs. G. was travelling in a car. This light was travelling at the height of about four to five feet above ground level and was coming towards the car."

"It disappeared for a time before making a re-appearance. When the car reached Y Ffor (Fourcrosses) the light completely disappeared."

"The facts are contained in an article by Dyfed Evans ... and can be found ... in Y Cymro, 25th September, 1953."

"... this area ... consists of very old rock formations. From time to time photons are set free ... Such photons remain in the atmosphere for a time before disappearing."

EVENING TELEGRAPH, Derby, England - Sept. 25, 1986 CR: T. Good

Probe into sighting of 'UFO'

UFO investigators are today looking into claims that mysterious green lights which have European police baffled may have been seen over Derbyshire.

Miss Sue Fisher was travelling with three friends to her Hognaston home when a green light arched across the sky in front of their car. All four saw the light.

Sue (23), of Victoria Cottage, said: "I am really convinced this was something unusual."

The Derbyshire sighting happened near Honaston last Friday at about 9 p.m.

And Mr Peter Ann, Derby group leader of the National UFO Investigation Society said: "We will certainly look into the sighting."

A spokesman for East Midlands International Airport said nothing unusual had been detected in the sky.

BARNSELY CHRONICLE, Yorkshire, England - Sept. 26, 1986 CR: T. Good

Whoever saw a saucer...?

WANTED...local people who may have seen a flying saucer over Barnsley last month.

The 300-member Yorkshire UFO Society is carrying out an investigation into the sighting by Barnsley man John Brook and are anxious to trace anyone else who may have seen the object.

Mr. Brook, of Derby Street, fled in fright after the oval-shaped, 80-feet-wide object turned a fluorescent beam on him.

The object was hovering at a height of about 50 feet somewhere in the direction of the Co-op Dairy in Summer Lane. It had flashing red and purple lights on its side.

Mick Hanson, of Yorkshire UFO Society, said: "We investigate any sightings in Yorkshire, and on this one we will be contacting people like the Royal Air Force and the police to see if they picked anything up."

"If anyone in Barnsley saw a similar object to Mr. Brook, we would be interested in hearing from them."

Mr. Hanson can be contacted on Rotherham (06) 363394.

KEIGHLEY NEWS, Yorkshire, England - Aug. 29, 1986

Who saw a UFO?

A Keighley UFO investigator has appealed for people who saw a mysterious object flying over the town to come forward.

David Atkins, local representative of the Yorkshire UFO Society, says it was seen by two Delph House pensioners.

It came from the direction of Long Lee and disappeared over Black Hill at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, the flight path taking it over Parkwood, Fell Lane and Braithwaite.

Mr. Atkins says the pensioners claim the buzzing object did not look like a normal helicopter or plane. Witnesses should phone Mr. Atkins on Keighley 680104.

CR: T. Good

'UFO kidnap' man dies at 80

MR. Alfred Burtoo, the Aldershot pensioner who claimed he was abducted by aliens and taken aboard their flying saucer, has died after a long illness, aged 80.

Aldershot-born Mr. Burtoo, who lived in Pegasus Avenue, hit the headlines three years ago when he told of the night men came from outer space and talked to him.

FISHING
UFO experts, at first sceptical of Mr. Burtoo's story, were later con-

vinced his encounter with the aliens was fact.

Mr. Burtoo said the flying saucer landed one night as he was fishing in the Basingstoke Canal near the Government Road bridge, Aldershot.

Experts concluded that Mr. Burtoo could not have known certain details about his experience without having studied UFOs in depth.

Mr. Burtoo leaves a wife Marjorie and children Jim, Alfie, Matthew, Joe and Sheila.

MAINICHI DAILY NEWS, Tokyo, Japan - Sept. 25, 1986 CR: Y. Matsumura

Blue-Green UFO Alarms W. Europe

HEIDELBERG, West Germany (AP) — An unidentified flying object described as a blue-green fireball startled observatories, air-traffic controllers and thousands of outdoor witnesses Tuesday in five West European countries.

West German astronomers said the object appeared to be a disintegrating meteorite, while an air safety spokesman in Luxembourg speculated it might be a wayward rocket from NATO maneuvers.

France's National Center for Space Studies said the UFO could have been caused by space debris. Albert De Kerfgieter, spokesman at the Belgian Royal Observatory, agreed.

"We conclude that it was the re-entry in the atmosphere and subsequent burning of a satellite," he said. "We are not yet 100 percent certain, but everything points in that direction."

Nevertheless, the European Space Agency operations center in Darmstadt, West Germany, said it had no evidence of falling

space satellites in the region.

Hundreds of people telephoned the meteorological department of the Dutch Air Force base in Eindhoven early Tuesday morning reporting a "ball of fire," a base spokesman said.

Police in West Germany's Hesse and Baden Wuerttemberg states said they received many calls from 7:30 to 7:45 a.m. (0630-0645 GMT) about a bright flying object with a luminous tail traveling westward.

EAST ANGLIAN TIMES, Ipswich,
England - Sept. 11, 1986

CR: T. Good

Tel Aviv UFOs

Two brightly lit unidentified flying objects have been spotted over Tel Aviv, alarming residents who called police and the weather service according to the Israeli daily newspaper Hadashot.

TRANSLATIONS

City and country of incident: Macon, France
Date of incident: August 1, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: LE COURRIER DE SAONE ET LOIRE, August 2, 1986
City and country of newspaper: [City Unknown], France

[CREDIT: Michel Granger & Jack Holman, via A/SPR]

A UFO IN THE SKY OF MACON

The police report that six people claim to have seen a UFO in the sky of Macon on the night of Thursday/Friday.

The six witnesses (three men and three women)--all of them reliable, according to the police--were at the Macon town hall around 1:15 AM when they caught sight of a luminous disk in the sky. The disk rapidly lost altitude before disappearing behind a ridge of trees some few kilometers away in the distance. According to these witnesses, this disk continually exhibited oscillating movements, but emitted no sound and gave off no smoke.

Afterwards, they traveled to the spot where the object ought to have landed, but their search was fruitless. The police of St. Laurent-Sur-Saone will be conducting an investigation.

In 1975, a UFO was sighted in broad daylight a few kilometers from Macon at La Roche-Vinense. A witness succeeded--at that time--in taking some color photos which were turned over to the police.

City and country of incident: Belluno, Italy
Date of incident: August 15-16, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: IL GIORNALE, August 17, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Milano, Italy

[CREDIT: Daniela Giordano - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Robert Reid]

CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN THE BELLUNO AREA

They Saw a UFO and Lost Consciousness

Belluno -- Two tourists in the Belluno region lived an incredible experience with a UFO. Now a psychoanalyst must decide whether it was hallucination, a bad dream, or what.

Here are the facts, as recounted by husband and wife, Angelo and Grazia Ricci, who are from Verona. It all began the evening before last around 11:00 o'clock. (The Riccis) were seated at the edge of a woods near Cadore when they saw a luminous object descending from the sky. It was blue colored, discoidal in shape with a cupola, and about eight meters (25') in diameter.

The object landed silently right in front of the couple. They soon lost consciousness and don't remember anything: a memory lapse of about two hours. That theirs was not a collective hallucination is indicated by the fact that when they regained consciousness, they noticed where the disc had landed, a circular imprint 8-9 meters in circumference.

City and country of incident: Belluno, Italy
Date of incident: August 15-16, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: IL GIORNALE, August 26, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Milano, Italy

[CREDIT: Daniela Giordano - TRANSLATION CREDIT: Robert Reid]

UNDER HYPNOSIS MARRIED COUPLE REVEALS

"We Were Abducted by Extraterrestrials"

Pordenone -- Two people from Verona, who on the night of Ferragosto (an Italian mid-August holiday), saw a UFO land and lost consciousness for some hours, have revealed under hypnosis to have been at the mercy of extraterrestrials. This has been reported by professor Antonio Chiumiento of Pordenone, president of the Italian Center for Ufological Studies.

Husband and wife, Angelo and Grazia Ricci, told professor Chiumiento that from 11:00 PM until 2:00 AM on the night of 15-16 August, after having seen a flying disc land at the edge of a wood near Cadore in the Belluno district where they were on vacation, they lost consciousness. When asked if they would undergo hypnosis in an attempt to penetrate this period of unconsciousness, the Riccis agreed willingly.

This is what emerged in the session. Angelo and Grazia Ricci "remembered" being taken inside a strange object by two beings about 2 meters (6' 6") tall who were dressed in grey coveralls that left only the head exposed. (The head) was long, hairless and had very pale skin.

The beings, whom professor Chiumiento calls--for now, pending further verification--"extraterrestrials", had two phosphorescent eyes, pointed ears, normal nose, and a narrow slit where the mouth should be. Under hypnosis, the two witnesses described having undergone detailed medical exams and various tests. Inside the object (craft) there were strange instruments and many lights of various colors.

Professor Chiumiento is of the opinion that these days there is a strong re-awakening of ufological activity. He has, in fact, received notice yesterday of three new incidents.

City and country of incident: Lockne Sea, Ostersed, Jamtland Region, Sweden
Date of incident: September 5, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: OSTERSUNDS-POSTEN, September 8, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Ostersed, Sweden

[CREDIT: Erik Fredriksson]

WHAT DID ARNE AND GERD REALLY SEE OVER LAKE LOCKNE?

What was it Arne and Gerd saw over the Lockne sea during the night of Friday/Saturday?

"It was an oblong object, about as big as an airplane, with a bright white light. I saw it standing still for a long time," said Gerd Festin.

Gerd doesn't really know what to believe. She doesn't think she is extreme or imaginative, but what she saw during that night was something really special.

"I have really seen the same object once before, about two years ago, when I thought it was an airplane. But this time, I was able to see it was not a plane."

It Looks Grey

The observation began on Friday evening at 7:00 o'clock when Gerd Festin was driving to a party in an old mountain pasture near a home in Angsta. "I saw the object in the air, right in a glade. It was not lighted at that moment." Gerd described the object as oblong, round at the bottom and a little crushed on the upper side. During the first observation, it was just grey.

"Later, when we went home and were standing in the courtyard, I saw the object up in the air, right over the Lockne sea, near Haga village. I observed the object quite a long time and it appeared to be standing still. And it was not any airplane, I'm sure. A plane always has a blinking light, but this was a prolonged white light, nearly as a halo around the object," said Gerd.

After a while, she went in to bed. But at 4:00 in the morning, she was awakened. The cow was mooing from the lay near the yard. The object had moved toward the house and was much nearer, but it stood still again. It was near the village of Tandsbyn.

Try to Photograph

Gerd woke up her husband Arne and both went outside to look at the object. "I took both camera and binoculars outside. I tried to photograph it, but I don't think I was able to get a picture. I used the flash in the dark. The object's light was so bright that it was impossible to give any description of what it really looked like. Its size was like a passenger airplane, rounded at the bottom and flat on the upper side. I have the feeling that it was some kind of aircraft, but what it could be, I don't know."

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)

A similar observation was made during Friday night in the nearby village of Lit, reported to the editor of the local paper. There have not been any calls to the local police station from other witnesses.

Name of paper and date of clip: O GLOBO, September 9, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Cynthia Luce]

MOTOR DEVELOPED IN THE SOVIET UNION UTILIZES ENERGY ONLY FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

Scientists from the Institute of Mathematics and Mechanics Research of the University of Leningrad in the Soviet Union, have developed a motor that functions only with energy from the environment, which approximates a machine of perpetual motion, which is one of the oldest dreams of man, to produce a perpetual motion machine without the consumption of energy. The motor will start to be produced before the year is out.

According to the agency Novosti, energy reversal, or "the impossible motor," as it is called, was designed by Professor Vladimir Likhatchov, and consists of a wheel 50 centimeters in diameter, whose axle is attached to the rim of a small hoop by means of various springs. The lower part of the wheel is immersed in a container filled with hot water and starts to rotate, at first slowly, then faster and faster until the spokes of the wheel are no longer visible. All this is without utilizing a coil or induction cables.

The secret of the invention is in the springs, made of a special mixture, or blend, of metals that has a "memory" of forms. The pieces made of this special blend of metals maintain their original form within a defined temperature range, beyond which they become plastic. When they are immersed in hot water, the springs contract, the opposite of what happens with common metals which dilate when heated. The hot water container acts as a starter mechanism and accelerator for the motor.

The submerged springs contract, making the wheel descend, as the upper springs expand in the colder air at the top of the wheel. The process initiates a rotary motion that can continue many hours, utilizing only thermal energy obtained by the difference between the water and the air.

The scientists still haven't been able to explain the mechanism of heat and cold of the mixture developed for the springs, which is contrary to the basic laws of thermal dynamics, but they believe that this mechanism is linked to peculiar characteristics in the chemical phenomena of solid bodies.

The new motor, according to Novosti, is classified as a reversal of energy because energy from the environment transforms structural energy accumulated in the metal, that in turn becomes a form of mechanical energy and secondly, as heat transmitted in the environment.

The new motor is ideal for equatorial and arctic zones, where temperature differences between the air and water facilitate its functioning.

City and country of incident: Brasilia-Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Date of incident: September 13, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: JORNAL DO BRASIL, September 15, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Irene Granchi]

(INFORME JB) [Daily column]

One more unidentified object, known by the technical name of OVNI [UFO], has invaded Brazilian airspace.

The phenomenon occurred around 9:30 PM, Saturday, at about 60 miles from Para, Minas.

The person who gave the alarm was the pilot of flight 471, Transbrasil, on his route from Brasilia to Rio de Janeiro.

A small TAM jet, prefix PT IIQ, also saw in the sky a flying object full of green, yellow and red lights--these last more clearly visible.

The Commander of the little jet, Murilo Prado, assures that he had never before seen anything like that in the 35 years of his experience flying. The same kind of shock and feeling of marvel was shared by 1st Officer Osires Morais.

CINDACTA, the modern French radar system based in Brasilia, was put into action to try and detect the OVNI. They failed.

City and country of incident: Malung/Sunnansjo, Dalarna Region, Sweden
Date of incident: September 12, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: DALA-DEMOKRATEN, September 13, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Falun, Sweden

[CREDIT: Erik Fredriksson]

METALLIC DISCUS OR FLYING CAR-LIGHT

More and more reports of peculiar light phenomena in the sky have come from the Dalarna region, especially after the cold nights during this fall. Two observations of a brightly lighted object flying in the sky were made early Friday morning. One was from Malung and the other from Sunnansjo. Berta Eriksson from Fallen in Malung got up at 2:00 AM to get some fresh air. She discovered something which she described as one of the strangest things she has ever seen.

Ball with lilac tail

It was a big brilliant white lighted ball with a lilac tail which was gliding through the air at a very low level, perhaps near the cottage hospital roof, Berta said.

"It looked like a brightly lighted car searchlight gliding in between the houses. The ball went quite horizontally over the ground, very slow, with a blinding light, and disappeared at last at the house on the road to Mora.

"It was really strange and unreal in a way. At first, I thought it was some kind of military rocket, but they would not be training in the center of the community in the middle of the night. No, I don't understand what it was," said Bertha, who was much confused by the incident.

Metallic discus

The other observation was made by Nelly Eriksson from Sunnansjo. At about 1:00 AM on the same night, she went outside with her dog when she suddenly discovered an object which nearly blinded her. She observed a disc-like object, brilliantly lighted, waving or floating in the sky near the treetops, moving from west to east. As the object disappeared to the east, the blinding light decreased and changed to more of a metallic brightness. Nelly Eriksson estimated that she was able to follow the object's flight through the air for about 20 seconds.

Nothing military

Gudrun Andersson, president of Vasterbergslagens UFO union has no explanation for the two similar time and incident observations.

"We have not found any natural explanation for the observations. No military activity has occurred either day or night during this time," said Andersson.

City and country of incident: Various areas, Europe
Date of incident: September 23, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: JORNAL DO BRASIL, September 24, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Cynthia Luce]

UFOs FLY OVER FIVE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND INTRIGUE THE POPULATION

Paris, Bonn & Luxemburg - Hundreds of Parisiennes were surprised yesterday morning by a formation of a dozen UFOs which flew over the city at the time when everyone was driving to work. Similar objects were seen in the skies of Luxemburg, West Germany, Belgium and Holland.

Between 7:30 and 8:00 AM (local time), European observatories and airport control towers received dozens of telephone calls from people asking for information about the phenomenon. Specialists believe that it was pieces of rockets or old satellites that entered the earth's atmosphere with great velocity and disintegrated, falling as if they were meteorites.

In Paris, witnesses saw between 10 and 15 luminous points maneuvering in formation and leaving green, turquoise and silver traces. The formation flew at a velocity like airplanes doing acrobatics, said the witnesses. Sources from Parisienne air control said that there had been no air maneuvers planned for yesterday morning.

In Holland, there appeared a ball of fire, and, in Belgium, a luminous rocket which moved silently at high velocity. Marc Mitten, the air control at the Luxemburg airport, saw 5 objects that looked like rockets at high speed. He guaranteed that they weren't airplanes and says that the radar showed nothing.

Germans saw "flying objects that left colored traces." The astronomers from the European Space Agency in Darmstadt, West Germany, had no information about falling satellites in European air space. The director of the astronomy observatory, Bochum, Heinz Kaminski, believes that the UFO is only a meteorite that penetrated the atmosphere and disintegrated.

Jean-Jacques Velasco, of a group that studies unidentified aerospace phenomena in Toulouse, explains that, "falling objects occur practically every day on the planet and one or two times a year in France," though he refused to comment on the formation of luminous points observed yesterday, alleging he needs more data.

According to NORAD, the military organ charged with monitoring the entrance of orbiting objects into the air space of the North American continent, the date and the trajectory of these "luminous points" coincides with a predicted fall of the rest of the Soviet rocket which lifted 2 satellites into space in May and June.

The French Association for the Study of UFOs in Aix de Provence, admitted the possibility that it was only the remains of an artificial satellite, as the radars showed nothing, according to Perry Petrakys, one of the directors of the group.

City and country of incident: Various areas, Europe
Date of incident: September 23, 1986
Name of paper and date of clip: O GLOBO, September 24, 1986
City and country of newspaper: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[CREDIT: Cynthia Luce]

STRANGE LIGHTS CROSS EUROPE IN TIGHT FORMATION

PARIS - When strange lights crossed the skies of France, West Germany, and Belgium and Luxemburg in formation, several theories were put forth. For some, meteorite showers, for others, missiles that were launched during NATO exercises; others swear they were wreckage from a Soviet satellite re-entering the atmosphere. The fact is that none of the versions satisfy the specialists. Lacking an explanation more convincing, they have given the apparition the most convenient label--UFO. Either way, no one knows what is happening.

The lights were seen yesterday for a long time in four countries. According to the first description, they didn't have a defined color, changing from grey to turquoise blue, and they moved in tight formation, evolving patterns that almost seemed choreographed. At first, authorities did not pay much attention to all the reports from different people. But when the list of observers began to include unquestionable authorities like the police of Belgium and Luxemburg, the first analysis in search of an answer was made. And the conclusion was that they could not arrive at any conclusion. Contributing to this was the fact that the radar did not register any unusual images.



WESTERN MORNING NEWS,
Plymouth, England
June 16, 1986

Is it a monster hoax or not?

-The
WNN
-Diary

IT is enough to give any self-respecting monster the hump. Since 1933, there have been 10,000 reported sightings and numerous photographs taken of the Loch Ness monster and yet there are still those who refuse to believe in its existence.

Today author Stuart Campbell publishes his own work, *The Loch Ness Monster*, and after sifting through all the evidence claims that every sighting can be dismissed or explained away as a wave formation or otters or deer swimming across the loch.

To settle the question for once and for all, I set off in search of Doc Shiels, the genial Irishman who took some of the clearest published photographs of the monster in May 1977.

This column has an unwavering faith in the good Doc since on St. George's Day this year we asked him if he could arrange for the little-seen Cornish sea monster the Morgawr to rise to the surface by way of a celebration of the George and the Dragon legend.

I had contacted the Doc then by way of a sort of joke. But within days of our report of his invocation of the Morgawr I began getting unsolicited letters from readers saying they had seen the beast rise from the deep.

I found Doc Shiels in his home from home, the Stag Hunt Inn, at Ponsanooth, downing a pint of draught Guinness from which he claims he draws his mystical powers.

"Of course Nessie exists," he says quaffing his stout. "I've seen her and so have thousands of others. I've even taken photographs as have others — not that I would necessarily want to argue that a photograph constitutes positive proof of existence."

The Doc published his own theory two years ago that Nessie is an elephantine squid, which he claims is the only explanation that fits in with the descriptions in all the sightings and with the ancient engravings of the Picts.

"I think it must be a type of giant squid," he says. "Biologists now admit that such creatures exist though they are rare."

The Doc, though, is not a figure taken too seriously in the zoological and biological worlds.

His doctorate, for example, was bought for just a few dollars from an American "university" and during his invocations of monsters from the deep he likes to be accompanied by naked witches.

"That's the old beauty and the beast idea," he explains, "and anyway it has its compensations even if the beast doesn't turn up."

"But it does work against me. The establishment refuse to believe that someone like me should see Nessie when they with all their diplomas, scientific research and expensive equipment cannot."

The Doc's own involvement with the monster began back in 1975 when reports of Cornwall's own Morgawr began to circulate.

"The fishermen began coming back into Falmouth saying that there was something out there eating all the mackerel in 1975."

"By 1976 people were taking pictures of it and they were beginning to appear in the papers."

CR: D. Rossiter/COULD-I

DAILY NEWS, Jackson, MS - May 16, 1986

On haints, haunts and Bigfoots . . .

It was my rare good pleasure Wednesday to accompany *Jackson Daily News* reporter Sidney Cearnal on the Great Bigfoot Search in Jackson. For those who may have missed it (who could have?), a Pearlina Duckworth on Elaine Boulevard was out tending to her roses around 9 a.m. when, she later recalled, "something behind me made a funny noise."

"I turned around and it (the unexplained monster) stood up. It twisted its neck around and went 'aaaaarrgh.' I broke and ran and I don't know which way he went," she said. She described the creature as big and hairy, of a beige color, about 100 (or more) pounds, with a long head, a long "keen" mouth, with little bitty ears and a fat neck.

Well, needless to say, upon hearing in the newsroom of this unusual phenomenon, I couldn't resist the impulse to check it out. So away Sidney and I went, leaving lofty thoughts of Chernobyl, city tax exemptions, Hinds unit system woes and other such editorial page fodder behind.

As a Huck Finn adventure, searching for Bigfoots rivals all.

I talked with Mrs. Duckworth and surveyed the scene. Mrs. Duckworth obviously saw something. The heavily-wooded area (about 50 acres, I'd guess) was a perfect place for haints and haunts, Bigfoots and other things to prowl and bump in the day or night, it being rather isolated, dense, dark and foreboding, as generations of Delta Drive area children will no doubt now relate. (A group of about eight children was sitting on Mrs. Duckworth's front porch when we arrived, and they certainly appeared to believe in Bigfoot. They, as Mrs. Duckworth's daughter reportedly pointed out about the Bigfoot, had "big eyes!")

The spot where the Bigfoot was reportedly seen was near a deep ravine in the woods, with a slow-moving, foot-deep creek at its bottom. And, yes, there was evidence that something had indeed scrambled up the far bank, pushing dense grasses aside, although no clear track was found.

We may never know if a Bigfoot came to Jackson on Wednesday. And as much as



Jim Ewing

... Mississippi has its haints and haunts and Bigfoots, from the Tinsley man who told me about a Devil Hog in his area, to the ... Bigfoot in rural Rankin County described almost exactly like the Jackson one.

a reporter can turn cynical about what people perceive, I learned long ago to keep an open, if still modestly skeptical, mind, even about the mind-boggling.

Several years ago, while I was a reporter in Tennessee, someone called the police in a small town where I worked to report a "bear." It wasn't until five or six people called about the "bear" that police investigated and, indeed, there was a bear walking down Main Street in the early morning. It had wandered, somehow, completely undetected through populated areas for more than 75 miles from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Another time, I was dispatched to check out a UFO story. A woman called to say she had seen a UFO hover over her house and had seen some humanoid-like creatures disembark. I went out and talked to the lady and wrote a story about it. Later, some bonafide UFO investigators (a private group) called and I took them out to talk to the lady. She, too, was sincere, obviously not crazy, had a good reputation, and, though had no evidence other than her testimony, like Mrs. Duckworth, had obviously seen something.

After the UFO story, too, I found others who confided (though not for publication) that they had seen strange things in their lifetimes. One was a deputy sheriff who said he followed a UFO once in a high-speed chase. (He was among several people who saw the "strange lights" — the local sheriff confirmed, but no report was written about it, as I recall, since, he asked, "who would believe it?")

Yet another time (by this time I was growing weary of hearing about strange things), a woman called and said strange lights were floating around her house. Well, I went out, suspicious of her sanity. But, sure enough, there were strange lights around her house. Once again, the UFO investigators came out, and all we could surmise was that it was that old bogey, "swamp gas."

And just about every rural area in Mississippi has its haints and haunts and Bigfoots, from the Tinsley man who told me about a Devil Hog in his area, to the reports a few years back about a Bigfoot in rural Rankin County described almost exactly like the Jackson one.

It does seem odd that strange sightings do seem to come in clusters and often when societal tensions are high. It could be, like my experiences in Tennessee, one strange event is reported and other people feel emboldened to report their sightings. But some social observers feel that strange sightings have a societal cause.

It could well be that the haints and haunts and Bigfoots of the national or international scene sometimes manifest themselves in people's back yards.

Maybe the frights of life too big for the individual to confront assume a real shape in the mind, if not in a wooded lot. For, indeed, like the Jackson Bigfoot, the deadly cloud of Chernobyl and the malevolent spirit of nuclear holocaust going bump in the world's nightmares have "big eyes."

But, then again, it could just be a Bigfoot really does exist.

And, indeed, when we do confront the haunts and haints and Bigfoots in our lives, we do see something.

— The Jackson Daily News

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL, Madison, WI - July 31, 1986

Inventor seeks patent for perpetual motion

AP, State Journal Staff

WASHINGTON — A Mississippi inventor who says he has developed a perpetual motion machine urged a Senate panel Wednesday to help him get a patent for the device.

"This invention of mine is not an accidental discovery," Joseph Newman told the Senate Governmental Affairs energy subcommittee. "I have put my blood and my life into this. It's going to change the world in a tremendously beneficial way."

Newman, 49, of Lucedale, Miss., says the machine uses the natural, previously unknown magnetic properties of copper coils to produce more energy than it consumes. He later demonstrated the machine for Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., by hooking it up to a fan.

Newman has been trying to get a patent for seven years. But his bid has been repeatedly rejected by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which has said a motor could not be made to operate at an efficiency level of more than 100 percent.

A perpetual motion machine has been the goal of inventors for centuries, but conventional science says such a device is impossible.

A number of congressmen, including Rep. Thomas Kindness, R-Ohio, have introduced bills directing the patent office to grant Newman a patent.

Kindness suggested that Newman be given the benefit of the doubt and be allowed to let his machine rise or fall in the marketplace on its own merits.

A bill similar to the one Kindness introduced has been stalled since October in a committee controlled by Wisconsin Congressman Robert Kastenberg.

Newman has maintained a public relations barrage to pressure Kastenberg to approve the bill, but Kastenberg won't budge because he has said the issue should be decided by the federal district court, where Newman filed suit in 1983.

The National Bureau of Standards, which tested Newman's device, reported last month that the machine did not deliver more energy than it used. Newman said the device was not properly tested by the bureau because the agency attached a ground wire to the machine, allowing energy to escape.

Roger Hastings, a scientist for Sperry Corp., said he has tested Newman's machine and that it has measured at more than 100 percent efficiency. "It's clear to me there is something very important going on here," Hastings told the subcommittee.

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, a member of the subcommittee, told Newman that the patent office wants to make sure a device works before issuing a patent.

JOURNAL, Milwaukee, WI
Sept. 21, 1986 CR: R. Heiden

Grain rain Corn is falling from Colorado sky

Evans, Colo. —UPI— Chicken Little, check out the sky: Corn has been falling in northern Colorado.

Some residents in this small town north of Denver say they've seen golden kernels fall from the blue time and again in recent years. Occasionally, a sprinkling of pinto beans occurs as well, they say.

"I'd probably have a ton of it if I picked it all up," said Gary Bryan, who has witnessed the grain rain phenomenon numerous times since moving into the neighborhood four years ago.

Last week several residents and reporters said they saw corn falling, and one of them then stalked the neighborhood in search of kids bearing slingshots or converted pea shooters or the like.

The reporter found no one. Other possible logical explanations also have been eliminated by residents. There are no farm fields near the area. It's a good five miles to the nearest grain elevator. No nearby military installation can be blamed for the abundance of kernels.

Still the corn peppers down. Police Chief Richard Evans called it "a pretty confusing case."

"So, as I was working as a stage magician at the time, I thought it might be good for business if I claimed to have brought the thing out of the water myself."

"My claims got a fair amount of publicity and eventually came the day when someone wanted me to put my powers to the test."

"I went out with the editor of the Cornish Times and started waving my arms about like someone out of a medicine show and lo and behold the thing came out of the sea."

"The editor of the Cornish Times was supposed to be taking pictures but his camera jammed, but anyway loads of other pictures were taken of the Morgawr and I have to admit I was more than a little baffled myself with these new found powers."

"So I thought I would test them out on Nessie. Up I went in 1977 did the same thing and she appeared, too, and this time I took the pictures."

So what does he think of Stuart Campbell's claims that the Loch Ness monster does not even exist?

"Well," he says, supping once more from a fresh pint of Guinness, "I know she's there, my photographs were authenticated by the Royal Photographic Society."

"So I think Mr. Campbell's book must be a hoax. In fact, I've seen no evidence at all so far to show that he even exists. "Until I see proof to the contrary I shall refuse to believe that there is such a beast as Stuart Campbell."

Fraser Massey

CR: R. Heiden

EAST SIDE STORY

In Search of . . . Berkeley Walls

By S. Rufus

You can live a lifetime in the East Bay and still never hear of the "Berkeley Walls." But those who have a taste for unsolved mysteries, especially of the backyard variety, know about them. Scattered in fragments throughout the hills from Tilden to Mount Diablo they stand: rocks piled up about as high as your waist, carefully placed but without mortar. Uncut rocks, yes, but definitely laid by human hands; the walls have been here as long as anyone can remember. More than a hundred years; maybe several hundred. And not just walls, but stone circles also: like seats at an amphitheater.

The thing is, no one has any record of who built them. And so it follows that no one knows why they were built, or when.

Well, it's not exactly Stonehenge. Nor is it Machu Picchu: you *could* fit a knife blade between these rocks; they look more like English countryside walls than South American ruins.

And you've got your various local factions for the last hundred years making their stabs at identifying, defining, and naming these walls. Homeowners whose property a fragment of wall intersects (though most of it runs through Regional Park land) wonder what that mound is doing in their backyard: "It was here when we bought the place . . . funny town, Berkeley." Archaeologists at Cal say it's all very mysterious and, yes, interesting, but . . . um . . . they're busy elsewhere. Too few clues about the Berkeley walls, they say.

And your local witches and dowsers visit the walls and pick up vibrations, and call the walls "sacred sites," places of obvious ancient worship.

And then you've got your Wall Nuts. Obsession with the Berkeley Walls mystery "is like an Olympic relay race," Russell Swanson, the current leading wall enthusiast, explained. "One guy picks up the torch and runs with it for a couple of years. Then he hands it to another guy. Right now I'm running with it."

Swanson is a sturdily built middle-aged man whose blue eyes burn with the light of questing. Yes, he's got the torch. His interest grew a few years ago from a "long-range hobby to an in-depth entertainment." Now he spends all his "spare time, spare change, and spare enthusiasm" investigating the walls. He pores over old East Bay maps, photo archives, and clippings. He has amassed huge files on the subject of the walls. He visits the walls regularly, taking snapshots, absorbing their energy, and looking for clues. He takes groups of people to various wall sites on guided tours. He publishes a newsletter, *The Wall-Nut*.

He's not an archaeologist. He's not an anthropologist, or a scientist at all. He's a book illustrator. But he has his own theories on research.

"Sure, you can do all that business with your bones and beads," he said energetically, tossing apples and oranges into a worn daypack in preparation for the wall expedition we were about to take. "Sure you can go chipping a piece off a church and asking how much lime there is in it. But what's the point?"—his voice almost cracked here—"what's the *point* if you don't consider the spirit and laughter of people? Of the people who left these things behind? Sure, I'll try to be very accurate in my research on these walls, but at the same time I will emphasize *feelings*."

All his research and traveling has not left Swanson without hypotheses. "Who built the walls? I'll bet my last dollar that the local Indians did it. But who did they do it for, and when?" He loves a good mystery.

"There is a strong possibility that pre-Columbian voyagers came through this area. I've always been interested in pre-Columbian voyagers. This country is always shooting off fireworks for Christopher Columbus; but personally I'm rooting for Leif Erickson."

Voyagers from Europe, Swanson explained, "would be two notches above the local Indians,

technologically speaking. They could have taught the Indians how to build walls, and use them as boundaries." But would the local Indians have *wanted* boundaries?

This question aside, Swanson speculated that when, in the 1830s, Spanish viceroys were handing out parcels of land to former soldiers and political figures, and these new landowners took on as indentured servants or slaves the California Indians trained in the mission system, "A ranchero might have said, 'I want a boundary between my rancho and the next guy's. I'll take some Indians up there and have 'em build a wall.'"

Laying out these scenarios—though it's undoubtedly something Swanson has done again and again, for many listeners—is obviously one of his greatest joys. Somehow I started to feel, guiltily, like I did when I used to babysit small boys, and I

Obsession with the mystery of the Berkeley Walls is like an Olympic relay race. "One guy picks up the torch, then he hands it on. Right now, I'm running with it."

would inadvertently hit on the kid's favorite subject ("Do you like baseball, Timmy?" or planes, or insects), and that would set him off for hours, rambling expansively, excited, delighted to have been asked just that question. And soon he'd start pulling out scale models or pinned beetles, hopping from one foot to the other.

"The Chinese?" Swanson asked rhetorically. "Sure, they built a lot of walls out near Sonoma. But if you look at the Chinese-built walls, you get a feeling that the builders came from a culture that already knew about walls and arches. Their work is very neat." Not like the walls around here.

"Besides, some of the rocks in the Berkeley walls are real monsters, weighing a quarter of a ton. The Chinese didn't use those kinds of rocks in their walls; they didn't want to be doing slave labor."

"Then there were the Americans; the settlers. In the Mother Lode country, the '49ers built some walls. But those are neat and as straight as a gun-barrel. The walls around *here* meander all over the countryside."

As the car arrived to take us to the walls, he cautioned, "In working on this mystery, you have to look at it as a five-year-old child might."

We were soon on our way to a regional park close to Mount Diablo, where Swanson wanted to take another look at a stone circle he found there some months ago. As we drove, Swanson told me about the rash of phone calls that came after he was interviewed in the *Chronicle*.

"The people who called had information about all kinds of new places, all over the Bay Area. Some of them would call and talk to me for a while. Then there would be this long silence. They were trying to size me up. They had information about a place they thought was sacred ground, and their attitude was, 'Are you holy enough to know about my sacred space?'"



Russell Swanson

This is not a philosophy Swanson admires. "If I've learned anything from researching these walls, it's this: Share what you know. Share . . . with *some* discrimination."

Accompanying us on this journey were Nicholas Finke and Richard Feather Anderson, leaders of the local dowsing association who have brought along the instruments of geomancy, with which they hoped to test the energies at the wall sites. Dowsers' pendulums and dowsing-rods, I learned, are not just for finding water. A dowser's equipment can also register strongly at hallowed or religious sites. "The local Indians were very much into using rocks as symbols, choosing certain rocks for their appearance," explained Swanson. "And some people believe the walls were not boundaries at all, but that the Indians built them to represent the vertebrae of the mountain god. That's where the dowsing comes in."

Before 1920, Russell Swanson said, much of the Grizzly Peak area was leveled for roads and housing space. "Under the poison oak: that's where the walls survive."

Harold French, founder of the Contra Costa Hiking Club at the turn of the century, "discovered" the Berkeley walls as he rambled in 1900. "He went around asking all the old-timers if they know anything about the walls, but he didn't learn much." The strange walls, heaps of stone running bumpily along the tops of the hills, tormented French, Swanson says; French thus became the first runner in this metaphorical Olympic relay.

A 1904 *Chronicle* article about French and his discovery was, Swanson said with a bitter laugh, "the height of yellow journalism. You could just see the editor with his tongue in his cheek. He really laid it on thick. Two weeks later a more scholarly article came out, in which Professor Kroeber gives the walls a very nice polite commentary. Then they buried it."

We parked the van on a steep curving road a few miles from Mount Diablo on this blazing day, crossed the road, and descended into the green valley on foot.

There was mud. Under the grass deep, deep mud. The land was used for cow grazing so the mud we traversed in our quest had foot-deep hoof-prints in it almost every step of the way. And since recent rains had collected in the low areas but had simply run off the high areas, it was like this: Walking through the grass and the low areas, you had to take your shoes off or else ruin them, maybe lose them in the mud . . . but in the high areas and on the paths, you had to put your shoes back on (calling for a brisk wiping-off of sticky feet before making that transition), because the cowprints had dried and the road was full of foot-cutting holes. I kept thinking of the pioneers.

And I kept wondering, angrily, why Swanson had not tipped me off that this was going to be a *hike*. He'd said, "We're going to go out and look at a site," but now we were walking four miles, five miles under the sun, not following the trails at all. Oh no. Swanson knew the route, and it was over and under, crisscrossing the paths, sloshing through

(continued on page 17)

wetlands, waving to cows who munched in their paddock. At first I was furious.

But later I thought: When you're on a quest, you're single-minded. It was obvious in the way Russell Swanson marched on ahead of us, moving twice as fast, his little daypack bobbing in the distance, that the man was questing. He hardly ever looked back at us, struggling through the mud, except occasionally to make a broad gesture and yell, "It's just on the other side of this hill!" He was having the time of his life, and when finally he stopped near the stone circle and we caught up, he showed it to us with that burst of pride the boy shows when he displays his pinned beetles or his submarine model, made out of toothpicks. But this sight was much better.

About thirty feet in diameter, the circle was almost perfectly round; uncut stones the size of cowheads stood inches apart. It was good to sit down.

The Druids used stone circles to worship in. Other peoples use

them for the more prosaic purpose of keeping animals in.

The two dowsers brought out their pendulums and dowsing rods (in this case, a pair of L-shaped wires that you hold by one end in one hand; if the energies are high, the wires diverge as if pulled) and walked slowly around and around the circle. Things were going well for them.

Swanson sat back. "Pretty impressive, huh?"

It was mysterious, too. The circle, while still intact, was obviously not being used for anything now, and had not been for a long time. A bunch of cows stood in a fenced-in paddock a few yards away. A shallow pond teeming with mosquito larvae and tadpoles glittered at the edge of the stone circle.

We moved on. In the middle of the smooth green hillside was a strange rock formation. Three head-sized rocks formed a V or arrow shape pointing directly at Mount Diablo. Behind the open end of the V, two more larger rocks stood, as if measuring distance. Around all these, other

rocks formed what could be called a loose circle.

The dowsers were impressed. Swanson suggested, pragmatically, that the rocks *could* have rolled, several hundred years ago, down the hill and stopped there just by chance. But you could tell he was hoping otherwise. And the dowsing rods, as if to support him, were going wild.

A few days later I made a trip to UC Berkeley to see Professor James Deetz, director of the Lowie Museum of Anthropology and an archaeologist. Swanson, too, has visited Deetz periodically, but has felt shut away—"like the village idiot."

"I don't have any axes to grind about the Berkeley Walls," Deetz said in his Californiana-decked office. "In fact, I must say they're very spectacular." But the walls and other rock formations, long neglected by local archaeologists, "present almost the most difficult kind of mystery to solve. There is a total absence of any dates. That kind of wall simply is not an aspect of the native traditions here, although you get things

vaguely similar in the Cotswolds [in England].

"Now here's a happy coincidence," he said, telling of a lecture he once attended at which the speaker showed a slide of old Sicilian livestock enclosures. "I looked at that picture, and I thought, 'There are the Berkeley walls.' Of course it wasn't really the walls, but it looked just like them."

Deetz said that almost every one of the United States has its own unsolved mystery, like the Berkeley walls, and he admitted—or warned—that "It's very romantic to suggest all these walls and circles were created by some nameless group a long, long time ago." He cited the many current theories regarding pre-Columbian voyages to North America: the Vikings; the megalithic tomb-builders; St. Brendan of Ireland; the Egyptians. But Deetz shrugged, "If such people were to come here, they could do a lot better" than the Berkeley walls.

"There is no reason to invoke semi-mystical peoples."

Researching our local mystery

would be "a hell of a hard job,"

one that would include "oral history and massive title-searches, investigating property boundaries all the way back before 1849. Then you'd also have to look at the roads that cross or are crossed by the walls and circles: Are there any faint old road traces going under them? If so, that would mean the road was older than the wall."

If you wanted to search for human clues, Deetz explained—either those dropped inadvertently during the construction of the walls or before, with the walls built over them—you'd have to destroy much of the walls themselves, removing the rocks in order to look under them. "Out of all those linear miles of wall, and all those rocks, you *might* find one object under *one* of those rocks." He threw his hands up. "Is it worth it? I don't have the time to find out."

His smile was half-sly, half-wistful as he described his vision of newspaper headlines "in the year 2083... still wondering what these funny walls are all about."

SUNDAY HERALD-TIMES, Bloomington, IN - Aug. 10, 1986

Studies give new theories of water on Mars

New York Times News Service

NEW YORK — Intensive study of 55,000 images recorded over a four-year period by two Viking spacecraft in orbit around Mars has persuaded some geologists that volcanic activity and fluid erosion have shaped the planet's surface to a far greater extent than previously believed. Scientists now believe there is enough water hidden in the crust of Mars to theoretically flood the entire planet to an average depth of at least 1,000 feet.

According to Dr. Michael H. Carr of the U.S. Geological Survey, leader of the team responsible for processing pictures taken by the two Viking Orbiters until the last one

stopped functioning in 1980, lava almost as fluid as water has erupted from some Martian fissures, sweeping across the landscape at high speed to form vast plains.

Another researcher, Dr. Timothy Parker of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., said he believed that some of the Martian plains were once oceans. He and Carr were among the researchers who attended two conferences on Mars recently in Washington, D.C.

The conferences, sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, were designed to whet scientific interest in Mars. A day of scientific sessions organized by the National Air and Space Museum was followed last week by two days of meetings organized by

the National Academy of Sciences that were devoted to plans for unmanned missions to Mars and speculation about manned expeditions.

Parker cited what he said he believed were former beach lines around the edges of the larger basins. It is difficult to assess this theory, however, because data on landscape elevations are unavailable.

Parker said that he hoped to estimate "fairly reasonable heights" of beach areas by evaluating photographs showing illumination of the beach slopes when the Sun is at different angles. He hopes to determine whether what he believes are beach lines are in fact at the same level.

A radar altimeter to be carried by a future spacecraft, the Mars Observer, should show depths of the basins but not the heights of features as narrow as beach remnants.

Seas could not exist for any length of time on Mars because the planet is so far from the Sun that water erupting onto its surface would freeze rapidly and then dissipate into the thin, dry atmosphere. According to Carr, however, underground reservoirs of frozen water are extensive and particularly abundant at high latitudes.

The landscape in those areas, he said, appears to have flowed as if

lubricated by buried ice. At low latitudes the land should not be frozen to depths greater than a half mile, he added.

Carr theorized that below that are very extensive reservoirs of water. Eruptions of this water, he said, might have created surface features suggestive of catastrophic flooding, such as that which shaped an area in the eastern part of the state of Washington called the scablands.

The area was swept by a flood so catastrophic that it removed all the topsoil and much of the bedrock. The flood came at the end of the last ice age 12,000 years ago, after the collapse of an ice dam that blocked drainage from much of what is now western Montana.

Since it never rains on Mars, scientists have been puzzled by Martian valley systems and tributaries resembling those on Earth.

Dr. Victor R. Baker of the University of Arizona, who has studied the scablands of eastern Washington as an analogue of the scouring that occurred on Mars, believes they first formed underground in an erosion process like that typical of the Colorado Plateau. The process, known as sapping, begins when water eats into an easily eroded formation, such as the Navaho sandstone in the walls of Zion Canyon in southwestern Utah.

Such erosion eventually forms an underground drainage system with many branches. The stream tunnels ultimately cave in, forming surface valleys that are further eroded by wind or water.

At the conference, Carr noted that Mars "has had a very spectacular volcanic history." Its most dramatic manifestation is Olympus Mons, a volcano far more massive than any on Earth.

The volcano is 15 miles high with a base is more than 300 miles wide.

SUNDAY HERALD-TIMES, Bloomington, IN - Aug. 10, 1986

Big Foot on the prowl in Hoosierland?

Of all the strange and mysterious creatures that have been reported as occurring in Indiana, the most controversial and perplexing is the huge, human-like being known as Big Foot.

I have over 40 reports in my files of Hoosiers who have claimed to have seen or had encounters with this enigma, and I personally have had several very strange experiences with some sort of unknown and unexplained animal that has left me puzzled and mystified. Something must be out there, but what it is, I just don't know.

The sightings of Big Foot-like creature in Indiana is contrary to popular opinion, not a new phenomenon. There are several legends handed down by Indians of large man-like creatures roaming the vast virgin forests that formerly covered much of our state. Some of these creatures were looked upon as gods by the Redmen. They were regarded with awe and respect.

The first recorded account of a Big Foot-like being being observed in Indiana by settlers occurred in 1838 at Fish Lake in LaGrange County. What was reported as a hairy "wild child" was seen swimming in the lake by a number of persons. In 1878, a "Wild Man of the Woods" standing 6-foot-5 and covered with dark hair, large piercing eyes and what was described as fish



Nature trails

By Harold Allison

scales on its body, was captured in the rugged hills of Southern Indiana. He was exhibited at Louisville until succumbing to the ravages of civilization.

In April, 1897, two farmers in Northeastern Indiana saw a large, hairy man-like creature run into a woods on their farm. Other scattered reports of these animals also occurred in the 1800's and early 1900's, but the majority of Indiana Big Foot sightings have been reported since 1940.

Near Thornton in Boone County during 1949, over 30 people reported seeing a huge animal that was quite aggressive and allegedly attacked two fishermen.

Another person, a woman, was supposedly attacked by a Big Foot along the Ohio River in 1955.

During the 1960's, Big Foot-like beings were reported from Wayne, Jefferson, Orange, Parke and Ohio Counties, so you can see it is not a local phenomenon.

The 1970's also saw a number of

wide ranging Big Foot sightings in Indiana. They were reported from Pike County near Winslow, near French Lick, near Roachdale, Parke County, Cass County and in DeKalb, Ohio, Madison, and Martin counties.

All of my reports from the late 1970's and 1980's are from an area that extends from southern and central Knox County, through Daviess County and into Martin and Orange Counties. There's another

area with several sightings centering on Perry, Crawford and eastern Dubois Counties. Scattered reports have also come from Pike, Greene, Lawrence, Monroe, Brown, Jackson and Bartholomew Counties. I won't go into the details of these sightings, but suffice it say some have been most interesting.

Indiana is not alone among eastern states in Big Foot sightings. There are many reports from Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, Penn-

sylvania, Florida and Arkansas. In fact, every state in the country and most Canadian Provinces have at least one Big Foot sighting, with the number in California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia running into the hundreds.

As I stated, this is a controversial subject with many pros and cons, but believe it or not, a lot of people have seen something. Who knows what lurks in the shadows of our Hoosier woodlands!

ARKANSAS GAZETTE, Little Rock, AR
Oct. 16, 1986

'Monster' identified as huge fish

Thousands of Chinese tourists have visited a remote lake in western China to glimpse a horse-eating water "monster" later identified as a huge fish, the Xinhua news agency said at Peking Wednesday.

"The legend of the 'Karas Lake Monster' started when some local Mongolian and Kazak minority nationality people said they had seen it gobble up horses," Xinhua said.

More than 5,000 tourists have visited the remote lake in China's far western Xinjiang Province for a peek at the monster since sightings were first reported in the press last summer, Xinhua said.

On hearing the news, a team of Xinjiang University scientists went to the spot and identified the red monster as a huge fish belonging to the salmon family, the news agency said. (UPI)

Tulsa man tags new theory on Hornet Spook Light

By Marta Churchwell
Globe Staff Writer

If Keith Partain's theory is correct, September will be the beginning of extensive sightings of the Hornet Spook Light, the mysterious optical phenomenon that dances in the countryside near the Hornet community.

Partain, of Tulsa, Okla., is among a string of researchers who have traveled to this Southwest Missouri community, attempting to unravel the mystery of the light, which wavers to and fro, and varies in size, shape, brightness, color, distance and movement.

Some have explained it as being foxfire, a luminescent gas given off by decaying wood, while others hypothesize that it is plasma, an ionization of atmospheric gases that cause a glow. Still others have dis-

called it as an optical illusion: a reflection and refraction of lights on vehicles traveling nearby Route 66.

Partain's hypothesis is that most of the time the phenomenon is the result of vehicle lights from the high-

"Nobody has dug up as many references to the Spook Light as I have. I now have 52 references. I don't know anybody who has done that much research."

—Keith Partain

The 34-year-old industrial lab technician explains that a high sunspot cycle blocks radiation from entering the atmosphere. When the sunspots are low, radiation is allowed to enter the atmosphere, energizing gases. He suspects that these energized gases form ball lightning and this is what the Hornet Spook Light is.

"Ball lightning is an unusual phenomenon that consists of a ball of charged particles of ionized matter," he explains. "But scientists do not understand how or why ball lightning exists, nor can they predict when or where it will appear."

For this reason, he says the light is not restricted to the farm-to-market road where most people claim to see it.

"When it's (the sunspot cycle) at its maximum, it's highly unlikely that you'll see the Spook Light. All you're seeing at those times are car headlights."

Partain's theory is based on the fact that the Spook Light is most often seen during periods of low sunspot activity, which allows more radiation to enter the atmosphere and energize gases.

"It's restricted to that region of Oklahoma that happens to be close to that road." The Missouri-Oklahoma state line intersects this road.

Although Partain says computer projections put the sunspot minimum in spring of 1987, the number of flares and sunspots are dropping so rapidly that he projects this September to be the ideal time to test his hypothesis.

For the next 18 months, particularly in September, he will travel to the Hornet area to test his theory, possibly using such equipment as a galvanometer, which would measure electrical fluctuations of the light, and a magnetometer, which registers changes in the Earth's magnetic field.

"Ball lightning is more of an observational phenomenon than something you can capture and put in a jar," he says. "All I can really do is observe it. If I can bring a video camera, it would show it passing in front of objects and prove it isn't car headlights."

"If it's the real Spook Light, you can see any solid object behind it. If

you see it wiggle at the end of a road, all you're seeing are car headlights."

Partain, who holds a master's degree in natural sciences, has been studying the Spook Light for six years.

He read of the light in a Tulsa newspaper and, because of his fascination with strange phenomena, he traveled to Hornet to view the light. He failed to see it in his first four trips.

"All I saw the fifth time was a little wiggle at the end of the road. It wasn't very impressive. So I became skeptical of what I saw and decided to start digging."

He pored through every piece of literature he could find on the light, studied the history of the area, examined geologic, topographic, seismic and magnetic maps, analyzed photographs of the light, and contacted physicists and other specialists in inexplicable phenomena.

"Nobody has dug up as many references to the Spook Light as I have. I now have 52 references. I don't know anybody who has done that much research."

An article he wrote on the light was published in *Pursuit*, a magazine of the Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained. He also is attempting to have a book published on the light.

"All I'm trying to do is dispel statements that have been circulating for the past 51 years that have no basis in fact," he says. "I'm tired of ghostly stories and debunking. I'm doing this as a scientist, a historian and a journalist who is simply trying to tell the people of Missouri and Oklahoma the truth."

CARROLL CO. TIMES, Westminster, MD

Aug. 9, 1986 CR: M. Opsasnick

Local Bigfoot steered clear of teen-agers

Recently I received a letter from Mark Opsasnick of Greenbelt, who's compiling a list of Maryland Bigfoot sightings for *The Info Journal*, a publication devoted to the weird and the uncanny. For those of you not in the know about Bigfoot — or, as the American Indians call it, the Sasquatch — let me describe this nightmarish biped for you.



Jesse Glass Jr.

When we got to Sykesville, I jumped out of the car with pad and paper in hand to get my scoop. I introduced myself as a reporter from *Caveat Emptor* (Latin for "buyer beware") *Magazine*, and said I was writing an article about the Sykesville monster. Would anyone be interested in being interviewed?

A gas station attendant said he was. He told me the story of the initial sightings of the creature, and added that the railroad track was the place to see it. I did not hesitate to get directions to the place.

He also directed me to an old lady down Main Street who, as she sat on her front porch escaping the heat, added even more to my monster knowledge.

"That thing was 30 foot tall, I heard," she said. "And tore a couple of watchdogs up. That's how they first knew a monster was around — by the dogs. That thing didn't like dogs and howled at them with a scream that sounded like a panther. There it stood in the dark and looked all about it with red glowing eyes."

I must admit that my friends and I were a bit nervous as we wound our way along the road to the railroad crossing. What if the Sykesville monster actually existed?

What if it suddenly stepped out in front of the car and waved its huge arms in the air? And what would we say to it when we stopped?

"Er, excuse me, Mr. Bigfoot, could you tell me where you're from, what you do for a living, what you intend to do in the future, and why you have red, glowing eyes that seem to stare right through one?"

"Why, sir, do you have huge teeth? Do you have a wife and kids back on your planet? What do you like to eat? Not people, I hope! Why do you stink so? Is there no form of deodorant where you come from?"

"Are you truly a throwback to Neanderthal man, as some researchers speculate? Do you visit your cousin the Abominable Snowman when the weather on the East Coast gets too hot?"

"Were you dropped into Liberty Reservoir by a UFO, as one anonymous caller to an all-night radio show said? Or did you walk through a time warp and materialize on this plane of earthly existence?"

"And why in the name of Loch Ness did you choose sleepy little Sykesville as the town to terrorize?"

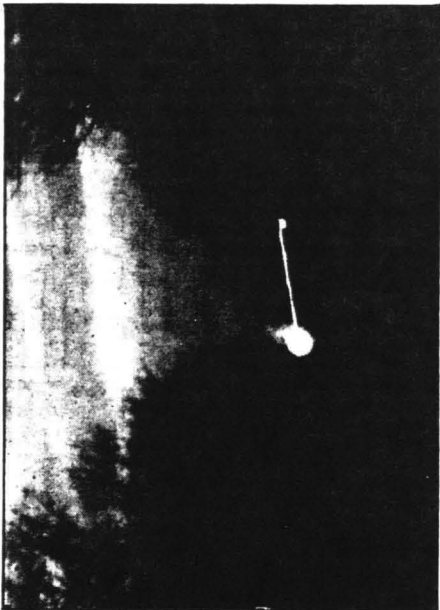
I could imagine the blustering, black-haired giant sitting down on a rail and scratching its head over that last question.

Sad to say, we saw no monster that night, even though we sat at the deserted railroad crossing for a long time. After a while, I imagine no amount of monsters from Sykesville or elsewhere could have interrupted our intense conversations with our fellow monster hunters.

There's one interesting connection that those who have written about the Sykesville monster for various publications fail to make. During the week that the monster was on the prowl, a documentary movie on a similar monster was playing at the Carroll Theater in Westminster. Perhaps this is a case in which life imitates art, either coincidentally or in a more purposeful manner.

Who knows?

Westminster native Jesse Glass Jr. is a *Times* columnist.



Globe File Photo/MARTA CHURCHWELL

The Spook Light is shown here as it splits into a smaller fragment. The 30-second time-exposure was taken just as the light fragmented, leaving a trail from its mother light. Partain says this is a photograph of the "real" spook light, not a reflection and refraction of lights from vehicles traveling a nearby highway.

Screaming Bigfoot heard in the Sierra

McCLATCHY NEWS SERVICE

FRESNO — Five chilling screams at dusk from an 8-foot-tall "shadowy, hulking" figure between two pine trees in the Sierra Nevada has scared a five-man construction team into keeping their guns close at hand.

While not all the workers are saying they saw Sasquatch, the legendary and some say mythical creature of the Pacific Northwest commonly known as Bigfoot, the experienced mountain men are sure it wasn't a bear or mountain lion, as federal forestry officials have suggested.

The crew, which was building a foot bridge at a remote location high in the southern Sierra, reported a terrifying encounter earlier this week with a huge, humanlike creature that emitted the bone-chilling, ear-splitting screams.

The strange incident occurred at dusk Monday near the Pacific Crest Trail on the South Fork of the Kern River in the Golden Trout Wilderness of the Inyo National Forest.

The men were building a foot-horse bridge over the South Fork at the 8,000-foot elevation near Monache Mountain, about 25 miles south of Mount Whitney, and were camping at

the site.

The crew boss, Clay Paulson, 38, of Fresno, said they heard a scream that was so loud it "sounded like a stadium loudspeaker." The scream came three more times and so unnerved Paulson that he fumblingly loaded a high-powered rifle and fired a warning shot in the air.

Paulson, Russell Pozovich, Leonard Williams and Kevin Dudley said that in the twilight, about a city block away, they saw the shadowy outline of an human-looking creature at least 8 feet tall.

The creature was on a small hill in a 50-foot clearing between two stands of trees.

Paulson described it as "a silhouette, a shadow." The men said that after the shot was fired, the creature moved over the top of the hill and disappeared. They heard no more screams.

Pozovich, 33, said the creature was "lumbering and kind of hunched over" but was traveling upright on two legs.

The fifth member of the crew, John Davis, 60, of Clovis, did not see the creature but heard it. Davis, a Mono Indian, has worked in the mountains for more than four decades as a logger and construction worker and has seen many bears and heard mountain lions.

"The scream was different than a mountain lion," Davis said. "I'd know a mountain lion."

Pozovich and Williams also have spent considerable time in the



mountains and said the screech was unlike anything they had ever heard.

"This was no bear or mountain lion," Paulson said.

The experience so rattled the crew that they were unable to sleep and instead walked out two miles to the end of a four-wheel-drive road and then drove to the Blackrock ranger station, where they spent the night.

They said rangers at the station told them that a mountain lion will

scream after making a kill and that a startled bear in the clearing may have heard the lion and reared up on its hind legs. Both bears and pumas frequent the area.

The rangers said there had been no reported Bigfoot sightings in the area.

The crew returned to the area the next day and examined the hard granite soil in the clearing, spotting some 20-inch depressions about five feet apart that may have been footprints, but the accompanying rangers said the marks in the hard ground were too vague.

The crew responded by noting that no bear or puma tracks were found in the area, either.

The crew left the area Tuesday for a few days off and will return tomorrow for another eight-day stay to finish the bridge job.

One crewman said he has no desire to harm whatever he saw, but he plans to keep a pistol handy when he sleeps at the campsite.

The crew said the rangers, while denying the existence of Bigfoot, said if the men shot one they could be prosecuted for killing what would be an endangered species.

Paulson said he returned to the site Thursday and encountered a hiker who said he had seen some footprints with a pronounced marking of a big left toe.

Bigfoot sightings in the Pacific Northwest are not uncommon. Skamania County officials in southern

Washington have passed a law making it a misdemeanor to kill one of the creatures. A Bigfoot hunter with a nighttime sniper scope was arrested outside Eureka in 1984.

Washington State University archaeologist Grover Krantz, who is a Bigfoot researcher, said he was skeptical of any sightings south of Lake Tahoe, but he did say the crew's description of the screams is consistent with earlier reports.

"It is an extraordinarily loud scream, louder than any living thing on Earth," Krantz said of the Bigfoot howl.

Roger LaJeunesse, a physical anthropologist at Fresno State University and a mountaineer, also said he was unaware of any reported sightings south of Lake Tahoe.

LaJeunesse said the poor light conditions and the crew's fatigue following a hard day's work may have caused them to mistake a bear for the creature.

Krantz said distinct footprints found after a U.S. Forest Service worker reported sighting a hairy, 8-foot creature near the Oregon border in 1982 were the best evidence yet of the creature.

Krantz said the distinct skin ridges in the footprints "would be almost impossible to fake."

"Russian scientists have also said they are convinced of an apelike creature, known as the Yeti, in remote areas of the Himalayas," Krantz said.

A hairy challenge for creative writers

Contest invites Sasquatch chroniclers

WANTED: Entrants in a Sasquatch Writers' Contest. Open to anyone in Washington, Oregon or Idaho writing about a real or imagined brush with the hairy giant also known as Bigfoot. Maximum length 400 words, or a one-page narrative poem. Imagination counts more than truth. Deadline is Sept. 28. Cash prizes of \$50, \$30, \$15, \$5. To receive guidelines before you submit an entry, please send a stamped, addressed envelope to Ann Saling, Sasquatch Contest, 8620 Olympic View Drive, Edmonds 98020.

by Charles Aweeka
Times North bureau

Edmonds writer Ann Saling has never laid eyes on a Sasquatch.

But as a member of the Edmonds Arts Commission, she finds herself beating the bushes for people who either believe they have seen one or can imagine what it would be like.

What does art have in common with Sasquatches, who are considered animals, walk on two legs,



Have you seen Bigfoot? If so, a writing contest is open for you.

EDMONDS

have a musky smell and reportedly are strong enough to lift small cars and fling them into ditches?

The commission is sponsoring the Sasquatch contest as part of its Write On The Sound writers' conference on Saturday, Nov. 15. Saling, who wrote a book on interesting phenomena in the Pacific Northwest, is organizing the effort.

"You don't have to believe to enter it," she says. "No lie detectors are being used."

The contest winners will be announced by Edmonds Mayor Larry Naughten at the writers' workshop at the Anderson Center, 700 Main St., Edmonds. However,

'You don't have to believe to enter it. No lie detectors are being used.'

Ann Saling

entrants don't have to register for the workshop.

Saling said KING-TV's Cliff Lenz will be the keynote speaker at the conference. She hopes to serve cookies in the shape of the Sasquatch's footprint, but probably

not as big. Bigfoot memorabilia may also go on display in the Edmonds Library.

The idea for the Sasquatch contest came from Commission Chairman Gloria Mae Campbell.

"But I recognized its brilliance," Saling says.

Campbell said it is doubtful that the contest could ever become an annual affair, similar to the famous Ernest Hemingway spoof. But she hopes that the writers' conference can turn into a yearly event.

"It's very probable that we might have to pick another theme," said Campbell, who designs and weaves tapestries.

Contest entries should be sent to Saling, accompanied by a \$1 reading fee with checks made payable to "Edmonds Arts Comm.-Sasquatch." Only one entry per person is allowed.

Saling, a former writer for Pacific Search Magazine with two cookbooks to her credit, said she prefers typed, double-spaced entries on one side only of 8 1/2-by-11-inch paper. Handwritten entries will be accepted if they are legible and lines are well-spaced. No entries will be returned, however.

The tone can be sad, humorous, serious, scientific or inspirational. But contestants should not ridicule the idea of a Sasquatch. There is no limit on the number of encounters that can be described.

Saling suggests that contestants be aware of existing reports on Sasquatches. She is not looking for stories about midged or hairless Sasquatches, nor does she want to see violence in the submissions.

The winning entries will be displayed at the workshop and may be published in booklet form by the Edmonds Arts Commission.

People with questions about the Sasquatch contest may also call the Arts Commission office at 775-2525, extension 269.

Fumes Force 1000 Out of Milpitas Homes

At least 1000 residents of a Milpitas subdivision were told to leave their homes last night after several workers in a nearby semiconductor firm where overcome by noxious fumes.

Four people were treated at nearby hospitals for dizziness, headaches and eye irritations.

No toxic substances were discovered at Xicor Corp., located in the Oak Creek Industrial Complex just west of the Nimitz Freeway, where workers had reported smelling a "chlorine like" gas around 6:30 p.m., authorities said.

Residents were allowed to return to their homes shortly before 10 p.m.

"The word we have is they simply don't know what it was," said Milpitas Police Chief Jim Murray. "Something took place but (hazardous materials experts) checked the plant twice and they don't know what leaked."

A statement prepared by the Milpitas Police Department said "all toxic materials are safely secured at this time."

Four individuals, including at least two Xicor employees, were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment, and subsequently released, the statement said.

Officials from Xicor Corp., a computer chip manufacturer, were unwilling to comment on the incident last night.

"We had to evacuate the area, just to be on the safe side," Murray said.

About 1000 residents of The Pines subdivision were given shelter for several hours at a nearby elementary school.

"No one's in charge here, people are just kind of walking around," said Karin Meyer, who lives a few blocks from the Xicor plant. "There's a complete lack of information here and people are wondering what (the chemical) is."

The case for life on Mars

By STEPHEN MILLS

NASA space probes have located a giant likeness of a human face and a series of pyramids on the surface of Mars which may link a vanished Martian civilisation with the pyramid builders of ancient Egypt and South America.

The 800-metre high sculptured face, gazing out from the barren plain of Cydonia, wears a head-dress eerily reminiscent of the pharaohs and carries an expression of warning — possibly directed to Earth about the cataclysm which may have engulfed an unknown Martian civilisation. Nearby is what may be a landing strip for spacecraft.

"Who knows if the aliens who may have inhabited Mars did not perhaps leave behind them a library of information, a storehouse of technological information that may be priceless in its value to future generations of humankind..." And so on.

This theory — and I have not even mentioned the supporting evidence about the interplanetary sperm bank or the artificial satellite orbiting Mars — is put forward by Dr James Hurtak, the Californian founder of the Academy of Future Science, who arrived in Sydney yesterday to promote his book 'The Face of Mars'.

Remember this man's name. If 'The Face of Mars' proves to be other than the wacky sci-fi it first seems, then the name of Hurtak will go down in history alongside, or probably ahead of, Copernicus, Newton and Einstein. If Dr Hurtak is right, he has made the greatest discovery in the history of intellectual progress. He will have overturned virtually every established notion about the universe, not to mention great slabs of history, archaeology, anthropology, philosophy, and religion.

But don't throw out those old textbooks yet. Dr Hurtak's theory is not exactly proven and his name may end up alongside those other radical, not to say imaginative, space theorists von Daniken and Velikovsky.

In his book, Dr Hurtak asserts that the "face of Mars" exhibits "a vast ingenuity on behalf of those who could have crafted this wonderful engineering feat". But at his news conference yesterday, he conceded that the chances of the face being an artificial rather than

natural phenomenon were only about two or three per cent.

He would not even put a figure on the chances of the free-floating sperm bank in the universe to which his book refers, but they are presumably even more remote.

Ditto the possibility that one of the Martian pyramids was really a radar-tracking station surrounded by a now-collapsed housing complex.

Nor would he rate the chances of Phobos, one of Mars's two tiny moons, being an artificial satellite from which someone or something used "Star Wars-type particle beam weapons" to spark a "planetary disaster of unbelievable magnitude".

Dr Hurtak's book is adorned by



Face or fiction: One of the photographs from Dr Hurtak's book.

photographs of the "face" which have been transformed, thanks to a new method of computerised image enhancement, from the tiny blobs captured on film by the Viking missions to Mars. Unfortunately, both Viking snaps on which Dr Hurtak's entire theory rests had the sun at the same angle, leaving half the face in shadow. Imagination does the rest. Still, it does look like a face and Dr Hurtak is sticking to his story.

Dr Hurtak is widely read. His research draws on evidence ranging from NASA to the Bible, and his book touches on the following (terrestrial) civilisations: Babylonian, Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Hebrew, Hindu, Inca, Mayan, Polynesian, and Zulu.

Australia's Aborigines contribute to Dr Hurtak's anthropological fiesta. Ancient stones used by the Aborigines for cooking display unusual magnetic properties, suggesting a magnetic reversal at some remote time which could

have devastated life on Earth and, by implication, on Mars.

Alternatively, life on Mars might have been destroyed by a war — either a battle between Martians using nuclear or laser type weapons, or their extermination by some interplanetary or extraterrestrial enemy. Dr Hurtak is not sure. But whatever happened, that is why the face was built, he says, as a "posthumous mask recording the tragedy of a hypothetical space civilisation".

US-Soviet cooperation on a return mission to Mars might be a way of ensuring that Earth does not have the same kind of trouble, he says.

The reaction from the official scientific community to Dr Hurtak's theory has not been terrific. Too many scientists are locked into traditional, non-holistic ways of thinking or too eager to toe the line, says Dr Hurtak.

Undaunted, he will press on. He certainly has many strings to his bow. One plan is to get the former US astronaut, Neil Armstrong, to visit Ecuador, where Dr Hurtak says he recently found what may turn out to be a "genuine extraterrestrial artifact" — a rock containing a mathematical pattern. It was found in an ancient temple system built — wait for it — in alignment with Mars!

Dr Hurtak showed me a series of negatives of "UFOs" he had just picked up in Brazil. Actually, they were UUTLFs, or unidentified ultra terrestrial light forms. They looked like photos of an eclipse. He said that 20 Brazilian jets had been scrambled to investigate them.

Their real significance, apparently, is that they were photographed above one of the ancient temple systems. According to Dr Hurtak, the Brazilian Indians believe that their guardians come from a different solar system.

Clearly, another piece is about to fit into the vast intergalactic jigsaw puzzle Dr Hurtak is slowly trying to put together. He takes comfort from the lines from Hamlet which he has quoted in his foreword: "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

But I think not even Hamlet could have been referring to a face on Mars.

'The Face of Mars', by Brian Crowley and James Hurtak. Sun Books; recommended price \$9.95.

Science report

Controversy over life on Mars revived

By a Special Correspondent

The argument about the possible existence of simple microorganisms in the soil of the planet Mars has been revived by experiments done on Earth. The results have led to a review of an earlier investigation in which a robot laboratory was landed on the red planet to analyse samples of soil.

The controversy goes back 10 years, when two United States spacecraft, Viking 1 and 2, reached Mars with experimental packages that were designed to search for microbial life.

A mechanical arm scooped some Martian soil into several experimental containers. One contained a nutrient in which any living cells contained in the soil would grow. The nutrient included a radio-active isotope tracer which, if taken up by micro-organisms, would also show in the gases released through respiration, thereby giving one of the possible tell-tale clues of material of biological origin.

The experiment showed a seemingly positive result that was open to interpretation as a sign of primitive life.

However, another Viking experiment to search for organic molecules, which were the expected waste products of life, was negative. This second result led NASA scientists to conclude in 1976 that life was absent and that some hitherto unknown inorganic mechanism had to be sought in order to explain the nutrient uptake and apparent respiration in the Martian soil samples.

What NASA scientists failed to consider in 1976 was that life on Mars could be ticking over at such a slow rate that little in the way of organic debris would be present in the Martian soil. Three years later a test of the Viking experiment carried out by Dr K. Bieman, using a soil sample

from the Antarctic (in which micro-organisms are known to exist), produced results almost identical to those actually obtained on Mars.

Two years later, Dr G.V. Levin and Dr P.A. Straat announced that all attempts to recreate the positive results in the Martian gas release experiment, using inorganic models, had failed.

At a meeting held in Washington recently, to mark the tenth anniversary of the Viking mission, Levin and Straat announced that it is much more likely that not that life was detected on Mars in 1976. After a decade of extensive experimentation carried out in the laboratory, it was confirmed that no inorganic explanation of the Viking results was possible.

The most intriguing claim concerns the nature of living systems that might have been detected on Mars. Dr Levin and Dr Straat show that there is evidence of lichens, which are a symbiotic association of fungi and algae such as are often found on terrestrial rocks.

Photographs of a Martian rock taken some years apart by a camera on one of the Viking landers show changing patterns of greenish patches similar to the behaviour of terrestrial lichen-bearing rocks.

Mars is the only earthlike planet in the inner regions of the solar system endowed with conditions appropriate for the survival of micro-organisms at the surface. The discovery on Mars of primitive life forms very similar to terrestrial forms would lend strong support to the idea that life came to both those planets from outside.

K. Bieman, J. Mol, *Evol* 14, 65, 1979.
G.V. Levin and P.A. Straat *Icarus*, 45, 494, 1981.

Nessie surfaces after hours

A barmaid who claims she saw the Loch Ness monster after finishing work insisted yesterday: "I hadn't touched a drop." Miss Sharon Boulton, 18, who comes from Dukinfield, Greater Manchester, said she saw Nessie—"a large black shape with two humps"—early yesterday after her shift at a hotel in the lakeside village of Drumnadrochit.

Miss Boulton was with two girls from the Isle of Lewis, Catriona Murray, 17, and Margaret MacLeod, 16.

The same energy beams could be directed at the speed of light to destroy enemy planes and missiles as well as to supply electricity, he said.

After Tesla began building AC dynamos, motors and other devices with financial backing from Westinghouse, Edison and his General Electric Co. waged a campaign to discredit AC by emphasizing its dangers, according to Tesla biographer Margaret Cheney in *Tesla, Man Out of Time*.

The visionary died in 1943 in a New York hotel room he shared with several pigeons, the biographer said.

After the war, Tesla's relatives in Yugoslavia petitioned Washington to receive 17 trunks of papers and laboratory equipment that he had stored in a New York garage.

In 1952 these items were sent to Belgrade where they are housed in a Tesla museum.

Said Grotz, "What do you suppose are the chances that everything was first copied by the KGB?"

Genius may have begun 'Star Wars'

By JAMES COATES
Chicago Tribune

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Giants have trod the ground here. Zebulon Pike, legendary explorer of the unknown West, gave his name to the majestic white-capped peak just outside town.

President Dwight Eisenhower came here to carve America's ultimate nuclear war command center, the awesome North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD, bunker, into the granite underneath Pike's Peak's neighboring summit, Cheyenne Mountain.

Most impressive of all, the man who invented radio and who discovered the way that the world transmits its electrical power did much of his creative work here.

But, wait. Weren't we taught that radio was invented by an Italian named Guglielmo Marconi? And that the legendary Thomas Alva Edison devised today's electrical power system in his New Jersey laboratories?

"We were taught wrong," said Toby Grotz, president of the International Tesla Society based here in honor of a little-known flamboyant genius named Nikola Tesla.

Two years before Marconi demonstrated his wireless radio transmission, Tesla, a naturalized Yugoslavian immigrant, had performed an identical feat at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago.

On June 21, 1943, in the case of Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. vs. the United States, the Supreme Court ruled that Tesla's radio patents had predated those of the Italian genius.

To be sure, Edison invented the incandescent light bulb. He powered it and all of his other projects with inefficient direct current electricity.

Tesla discovered how to use the far more powerful phased form of alternating current electricity that is virtually the universal type of electricity employed by modern civilization.

Now the indications are that Tesla also discovered many of the devices that the U.S. military-industrial complex is seeking to develop and build for the Pentagon's controversial "Star Wars" anti-missile defense system.

Grotz and other Tesla experts speculate that recent puzzling reports of immense clouds forming within minutes over Soviet arctic territory are indications that the Soviet Union is testing devices for transmitting energy over large distances developed nearly a century ago by Tesla.

Of particular interest to Tesla researchers, said Grotz, is a widely reported April 9, 1984, event in which at least four airline pilots reported seeing an eruption near Japan that appeared to be a nuclear explosion cloud that billowed to a height of 60,000 feet and a width of 200 miles within just two minutes and enveloped their aircraft.

In late July, the Cox News Service reported that all four of these planes had been examined by the U.S. Air

Force at Anchorage, Alaska, and were found to be free of radiation.

Grotz said that such clouds could form if someone were attempting to implement Tesla's plans for broadcasting energy by "creating resonances inside the earth's ionospheric cavity," as calculated in Colorado Springs during 1899 experiments by the genius.

Each year about 400 members of the Tesla Society, sanctioned by the prestigious International Institute of Electric Engineering, meet where the wizard of electricity carried out his most startling lightning-crackling experiments to discuss one of the strangest stories in the annals of U.S. science.

It is also the story of a little-known but intensely bitter feud that pitted Edison and the fabulously wealthy financier J.P. Morgan on one side and Tesla and his ally, the equally powerful George Westinghouse, on the other.

Many in the Tesla Society are convinced that foolish U.S. bureaucrats shipped the secrets needed to build "Star Wars" that Tesla discovered to communist-controlled Yugoslavia shortly after World War II, thereby allowing the Soviets an enormous head start in the quest for a particle beam weapon that is deemed essential to building any missile shield.

In an interview between sessions at this August's Tesla symposium, Grotz explained that Tesla was drawn to Colorado Springs because he needed the dry climate and the furiously powerful lightning storms that so often come tumbling down the sides of Pikes Peak and Cheyenne Mountain.

He was convinced he could broadcast electrical power across large distances just as radio transmits far smaller amounts of energy, said Grotz.